

Things to be done before
the Day of Judgment.

DISCOURSES

On the Glorious CHARACTERS

With Conjectures on the Speedy
APPROACHES of that STATE

which is

Reserved for the Church of GOD in the

LATTER DAYS.

Together with an Inculcation of SEVERAL
DUTIES, which the time-approaching
Visitors and Approachers of that State
Invite us unto :

Delivered unto the ARTILLERY
COMPANY of the Massachusetts
Colony & New England ; at their

ELECTION
OF OFFICERS, for the YEAR 1793.

By COTTON MATHESON

Lake Es. 56.

How is it, that we do not Differ
this Time ?

CAMBRIDGE :

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PREFACE.

THE Question put by the People to the Prophets, when the Success and Fury of a Mighty Conqueror threaten'd them; Watchman, hat of the Night is it? Is it the Raging war attended, and answered with words not altogether unlike those of the Apostle, The Night far spent, the Day is at hand. When the Elements of the Artillery lately Commanded So they did, when they only Requested it of me. I found I had formerly more time on such like Occasions Preached and did so much of Military Duties, that my Thoughts, as it were by some Compulsion, and now unto the P R E A C E hereafter so spelt; and my Second Thoughts assur'd that I could not readily do my Neighbours a Service, than by advising them about the same upon us, and near unto us. I am not perfide, tho' I am ever too unserviceable, that I have been left in any thing to be so Diserviceable unto my Country as to deserve their anger; and now I let them see, that I am full so much in Charity with them, as, To give unto the Time of the Day.

C. Mather.

Good NEWS in Bad TIMES.

Delivered

On the 1d. of the mo. 1693.
Unto the
ARTILLERY. COMPANY
of the Massachuset- Colony, New-England.

THE words which an Angl from Heaven once
used unto the Shepherds, Behold, I bring
you Good News of Great Joy, are those
which I may at this time venture to use unto
all the Pious, yea, even unto the Arm'd part
of this Auditory; I bring Good News for you
at this Day, wherin there is more than a
little Enquiry after News; and you shall have it,

from. *Isaiah 2. 4.*

They shall Beat their Swords into Plough-
shares, and their Spears into Pruning-
hooks; Nation shall not lift up their
Sword against Nation; neither shall they
learn War any more.

OUR Lord Jesus Christ ha's Glorious Things
to Do for His Church in the World.

5. EXPECTANDA; Or,

whereof ⁴ is a Passage in the Sermon of Peter, God bath Spoken of them, by the Mouth of all His Holy Prophets, [of which there is no pretence to Except any but Joseph, whose Book is rather an History than a Prophecy,] which have been since the World began. Behold, One of those Holy Prophets, here Discoursing on the Circumstances, which the Church is ere long to arrive unto; these are among The Glorious things that are spake of thee, O thou City of God !

It was the manner of those Holy Prophets, no pass from the mention of the dismal Things, or Troubles which they saw Sinful mankind Threatened withal, to the mention of the more Comfortable State, Reserved for the people of God, the latter day. Tis from this method of

thinking, that the warlike and unfeal posture of the World at this Day, and the Armarie in which your selves are at this Time accouered, have caused me to treat you, with Predictions of a State space coming on, wherein, They shall not leave War any more. And you will be so far from Suspecting any Design to Disarm you, when there is laid before you a Text, which carries in it the Spooling of all our Swords and Spears, that I know you will join with me in Dearly Lamentations, because I cannot add, This Day is this Scripture fulfilled in your Land.

Thus our Asias here, having affixed unto the Gates of the Temple, a Roll where all might Read a Delineation of the Sins and Plagues, which were then to be found upon his people, he quickly put up another Prediction, Concerning the Blessings, which God will bestow upon his Church, in the Dayes, when the Messiah

Things to be Look'd for

shall come to Judge among the Nations ; and, A-
men, even so, Come Lord Jesus ! There are Va-
rious Blessings, which we find here ascribed unto
The Last Dayes ; that is, the Dayes which
are to come after present long Tyrannies of sin
and Hell upon the World are Finished. One
of those Blessings, is that of Peace, which con-
tains all Sorts and Stores of Desirable Things
in its Retinue—

The Peaceable Outcomes !

And this Peace is Elegantly Expres'd unto
us, by the Notion of mens Altering and Em-
ploying their Weapons of war, to such Uses, as
Peace affords at once Opportunities and Incentives
unto ; tis q. d. Men shall then have no Occa-
sion for Swords and Spears ; but apply them-
selves to Feeding, rather than Killing of one an-
other. Swords and Spears have been such
mischievous things, that methinks tis a very
easy Sentence that is here past'd upon them.
To be Turned into Plough shares, and into
Praying books ; When God Enjoined a Sab-
bath every Seventh Year to the Land of Canaan,
as a Shadow of that State wherein this Peace
is to be Enjoy'd. We see for that Year forgo
much of the Husbandry usual in it. But no.
He comes to Paint out that State of Peace, as
from the Tools of Husbandry, even Plough
shares, and Praying Books, that he Fetches the
Colours of it. It is no less the Diffidence, than
the Honour of Religion, that we must always
have a Prophecy about us ; for the Prophecy
which we can hardly divest ourselves of, men
either the Threats of Tribulation, or afflictions,
or the Token of some Honour, or Pleasures, and

EXTRACT AND. 4; O-3.

our Value set them is only from a *Crafty* Nature, it is us, which herein do's often Cast contempt upon the *More safe Word of Prophecy*. But it is the *Holy*, as well as the *Study*, of Christ, to Penetrate into those Prophecies, whereof the Inspired, and Unerring Word of God, is a most *frank* and *free* ; of those Prophecies, we are advised, *Blessed* is he that *Reads* them ; and that man of God who *Conver'd* much with the *Bible* which had them, was called, *A man greatly beloved*.

In a Prophecy from the *Oracles of God*, which I have now produc'd you ; and let you should Question it, the *Holy Spirit* has taken the names to Record it in the very *Syllables* of it, no less than *Twice* over for you, about the *same Time* that the *Evangelical Jewish prophet*, there was the *Humble* *Messiah* sent upon the *like Errands*, of *Heaven* to the *World* ; and if you look into the *Fourth Chapter* of his *Prophecies*, you'll see my *Text Word* for *Word* again Repeated there. Now, I pray, what is this ? if I may not say like *fools* in another *Country*, *It is because the thing is Established by God*, and *God will surely bring it to pass*.

For any to think that it is already come to pass, is *absurd* and *ridiculous* as can be. That the *newfound* *State* of *France* *should* begin at the *Days* of *Constitution*. The *haste* *proposal* of such *Crown* and *Alley*, *Interpretation*, is enough to impugn it, a *Dishonour* of all the *Schemers* that *planned* and *designed* a *Future State*, *which* *here* *are* *before* *you*. I *do* then a *Diservice*, to *such* *fools* *as* *are* *now* *there*, *and* *in* *such* *ways* *as* *you*.

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DOCTRINE.

There is a Wonderful STATE of External PEACE, which the God of Heaven will make His People upon Earth, to be the Joyful partakers of.

You will give me leave to say, The people of God upon EARTH shall have this Peace; for, I pray, where else would you look to see the use of Ploughshares and Praising-bells?

There are three things, that here offer themselves to be Enquired into; First, what; Secondly, whence; and Thirdly, when will be this State of Peace, which is intended for the People of God.

I. Let us in the first place Enquire, WHAT will be that State of Peace, wherein we are told, Men shall not learn war any more?

Now this we are to know; That it lies not merely in the Blessed Settlement and Consolature of Spirits, which Believers in all Ages, are the Subjects of. When our Lord Jesus went away to Heaven, He left us that Legacy, in John 14. 27. Peace I leave with you, my Peace I give unto you. Hence tis, that our Spirits are not Royled and Troubled, in themselves by any of those dreadful Storms, that come upon the World; for, Being Justify'd by Faith, we have Peace with God. Hence tis, that our Spirits have a Disposition to Love and Serve, the God that made our Bodies in the World.

§. EXPECT AND O;

Having Salt in our selves, we have Peace one with another. Such a Spiritual Peace, is not all that we are to be Looking for ; No, the Peace promised unto us, is One by which the *Last Days* are to be distinguished ; whereas *All Days* have admitted the Peace, No Days can Spoil, or Quench that Peace, which Believers have in the Lord Jesus Christ, while in the world they must have Tribulation.

Well then, The Peace promised unto us, is that External, as well as Internal, Harmony, Amity, & Unity, which the Children of men shall have in and from the future Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are to Receive these two, as most Faithful Sayings, and worthy of all Acceptation.

First. The Lord Jesus Christ shall One Day, enjoy a Kingdom over and among the Children of men in the World ; and this, after a more Visible and Glorious manner than he's hitherto Appeared. Our Lord Jesus is a Blessed King ; that is One of the High Offices to which our Messiah is Assisted by his Eternal Father ; and there is a three-fold Kingdom, which He ha's already the possession of. He ha's a Spiritual Kingdom, wherein He do's by His Word and Grace Rule over the Consciences of men ; thus tis said in Rom. 14. 17. *The Kingdom of God, is Righteousness, and Peace, and Joy.* He ha's also a Providential Kingdom, wherein He Governs all the Affaires and Motions of the World, - being, entrusted with all the wheels which they turn upon ; thus we find in Eze. 1. 27. *He is, The man upon the Throne,* He ha's likewise an Ecclesiastical Kingdom, wherein He Appoints and Prospers the Ordinances of

a church State amongst us, and acts as *The Head of the Church*; tis possible that this may be partly intended, when we read in *Act. 1. 3*; *He speaketh of things pertaining to the Kingdom of God*. But besides and beyond all this, there is a *Davidical Kingdom* (if I may call it so) that belongs unto our Lord Jesus Christ; *A Kingdome* whereof the Reign of David had but a little preluge and Shadow in it; *A Kingdom*, wherein His present *Spiritual, and Providential, and Redeemingeal Kingdom*, shall throw off all the *Eclipses* that are now upon it; *A Kingdom* whereof 'twas the *Ancient Song*, in *Luke 1. 32, 33*. *The Lord God will give Him the Throne of His Father David, and He shall Reign over the House of Jacob forever, and of His Kingdom there shall be no End*. Compare *Isaiah 9. 7*. and *Jere. 33. 12, and 39. 16, and 36. 30*. The special property of this *Kingdome* lies in this; as the *Human Nature* is Exalted above other *Natures*, thus the *Jewish Nation* is Exalted above other *Nations*, upon this Account, That of them, as concerning the *Flesh, Christ came, who is over all, God Blessed for ever*. For That and some other *Causes*, a Distinct Body of the *Jewish Nation* shall be Exalted unto a most particular Acquaintance with our Lord Jesus Christ; Indeed at their *First meeting* with *Jesus*, He was unknown unto them, as *Joseph was unto his Brethren*, but 'at the *Next Encounter*, (especially if like their *Country-man and Exemplar Paul*, they should have a *Visible Apparition* of Him; for which, Ponder a *Tim. 1. 16. Zech. 12. 10. Matth. 24. 30. and Rev. 1. 7.*) then they shall *Know Him*: yea, then shall they be *so Convinced, and Advanced by our Lord Jesus in* the

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the World, as that by their means the Earth shall be marvellously filled with Heavenly Influences transcending any that the By-past Ages have had Experience of. At present such is the dreadful Interest of the Devil in the World, as that he is called, in Joh. 12. 31. The Prince of this world. Yes, in 2 Cor. 4. 4. The God of this world. Horrible is to be spoken ! But the World is a little while hence to have a New Face upon it ; and in that New world, the Lord Jesus Christ shall have as much Influence in the Hearts and Lives of men, as now the Devil has. Then shall there be accomplished that Word, in Psal. 22. 27, 28. All the Ends of the Earth, shall Remember, and Turn unto the Lord ; for the Kingdom is the Lord's, and He is Governor among the Nations. This is reckon'd as part of our Lord's Reward, for all the Shame and Pain, and bitter Humiliation, which He has undergone in the Lower World. He shall one Day have a Cross as conspicuous to the World, as that Cross which here He once hung upon. The Lord Jesus Christ shall then have such a Kingdom, that the Generality of Man-kind, shall yield an Entire and Sincere Subjection to His Blessed Laws ; and then shall every where Adore Him, as Their King, their Lord, their Law-giver. Then shall that promise be fulfilled, in Obad. 21. The Kingdom shall be the Lord's ; and that in Isai. 44. 23. The Lord shall Reign before His Ancient people Gloriously. The Devil once offered a Kingdom unto our Saviour ; he made use of some unknown Prophesies, partly for the Refutation of the Messiah, partly for the Magnifying of the Objects, by which he gave unto our Lord in His Temptation, an Ocular View,

View, of at least the whole Roman Empire ; and he made our Lord a Tender of that Empire, in case He would Establish Devil-Worship in the World. : Antichrist afterwards accepted this proffer of the Devil ; and became a Vicar, a Vice-roy to him, but our Lord Christ refused it ; and the Issue is to be Agreeable : Antichrist shall shortly loose his Dominion, as all men shall what they take at the Devil's Hands, and on the Devil's Terms ; but our Lord Christ shall thereupon Receive a Dominion wherein as we are told [and we have the Word of a God for it] in Dsa. 9. 27. The Greatness of the Kingdom under the whole Heavens, shall be given to the People of the Saints of the most High, whose Kingdom is an Everlasting Kingdom, and all Dominions shall serve and Obey Him. Mark, 'Tis a Kingdom [under] the whole Heavens, that is propagated ; I know not by what Rule then, it should be Expounded, of Kingdoms [in] th: Third Heaven. Briefly, Look back upon the Image that Nebuchadrezzar had of the Four Monarchies, & you'll see a Two-fold State on the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. First, that Kingdom ha's the State of a small State ; which lyes in the Islands that our Lord Jesus, ha's from a few people here and there, while the Fourth [or the Roman] Monarchy is yet a live. But then that Kingdom ha's the State of a Mountain ; which will be when the Glory of our Lord shall fill the whole Earth, upon the Dissipation of the last Monarchy which is adverse thereunto. Then shall we have the Answer to that Ancient Prayer, 2nd, Let thy Name be Hallowed, Let thy Kingdom come, Let thy will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven. : Secondly,

Secondly, When the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ Appears, all war will Surcease, and all Peace, all Charity, Amity, and Unity will Succeed in the Room thereof. The Kingdom of Solomon, whose very Name, as well as his Reigne, carried Peace in it, was but a little Type of that Kingdome which belongs to our Lord Jesus Christ. When you Read Psalm 72. 9. In his Dayes shall the Righteous Flourish, and there shall be abundance of Peace, while there is no Moan ; as well as other Bright and Sweet things in that Psalm for Solomon, you must Remember, A Greater then Solomon is here. As the Jews will then have no Moon, that is, no Turk, to afflict them in the wch a Night of Oppression, so will the Gentiles likewise then have, abundance of Peace. Men shall not then be so Contentious and Quarrel-some, as to Delight in War ; but our God has told us in Hosea 2. 18. I will break the Bow, and the Sword, and the Battle out of the Earth ; and in Isa. 60. 18. Violence shall no more be heard in thy Land, wasting nor Destructiōn within thy Borders ; and in Isa. 66. 13. Behold, I will Extend Peace to her, like a River. Indeed, Every Description that we have of the Condition reserved for the people of God, in the next Age, still gives us Notice of A Peace like a River, that is, an Interminable Peace pertaining thereto. The Inhabitants of that world, shall not so much affect the Exploits of that Angel, that flew near two hundred Thousand Persons with one horrid Thunder storm, as of that Angel which Visited the Pool of Bethesda to heal and help the Inconveniences of Mankind ; there shall be no Cefars in that world, who shall Value themselves, as the first of the Cefars did, that

that in their Time they have taken a Million Prisoners, and made more than a Million Convalesces ; nor shall there be any Scanderbys, to boast, that with their own Hands, they have in their Time Slain two Thousand men. Those two things are joined in the wonderful Name of our Lord Jesus, I. xi. 9. 6. He is, The Father of the World to come, and, The Prince of Peace. He will see that there shall be nothing but Peace in that World which we are now upon the Borders of. The First Adam ha's left a World among his Children, in which there are Cain & Abel's continually killing one another ; but the Second Adam will have no such Doings in the World that shall be called, His. We are told in Rom. 13. 10. Love worketh no Ill to a Neighbor. But the World will then be full of that Love, which will dispose men to do one another all the Good they can, as being Subjects of One Monarch, yea, Members of one Body in the Lord Jesus Christ. They that make the Seven Churches of Asia, whom our Lord Jesus hath Signallized by His Epistles, to be so many Figures of all Future Churches in the World, suppose Philadelphia to be that which points out the Temper of things in the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus, truly, 'Tis a Philadelphia Estate, which People shall then be brought into ; Brotherly Love shall manage all that is done. A principle of Love shall rule the Ascendent over all that Evill and Oppression, which is now every where predominant, that men shall seek One another, and be at peace with the same Integrity and Firmness, as they now pursue their own ; and that they may be truly one man, who are now many, Truely one man, who are now many.

THE PASTORAL OR,

which is Envisaged, upon Riddes Things ; as being upon that Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is called, The Mystery of God. Now this of One of the Hidden Things, that are then to come to pass, in Mat. 24. 2. He saith, wars to come into the End of the Earth. He breaketh the Rms. & casteth the Sheep in judgment. He bringeth the Chariot, in his Power. And will not the Swords go with them, think you ? It is a Sabbath, a Long, & a great Sabbath, which the World shall then Arrive unto; and as of old, no Fire was to be kindled on that Sabbath, so all Fires, that is, all War, is to be now Extinguished. There shall then be no Armies, but Guards, and there shall be no Swords, no Spars, worn by the Saints in the Approach of that Age. There will be no Armies but Millions, and among the Nations that shall wait for the Light of the New Jerusalem ; nor will there be the study of Ingenious men, in forward concerning this Time, in Mat. 24. 6. which shall dwell with the Lamb. Which of these, or no is shall. (as why may it not ? and of Calvin above it.) be faith. A in the world, Saints, will dominieis be fulfil'd in a short time. So that it shall no more be said, That the world is not worthy ; nor shall we be so worthy, that we shall be no worthy the world, and the Lamb, to receive the reward. Even so, & Amen. The world is not worthy, & the Lamb is worthy.

THE END OF JESUS CHRIST.

THE END OF JESUS CHRIST.

the Spirits of men in all Corners of the World, will cause them to Agree in that One Business, in Zeph. 3. 9. They shall call upon His Name, and Serve Him with One consent. Certainly, there will be no Fighting, when such shall all have One consent for the Service of God among them. The Pagan Historian, relates concerning the Time of our Lords First coming, That there was then, *Totius Orbis ans Pax, sit Pax;* a Peace, or at least a Truce among all the Nations; but a far greater thing of that kind will be brought about, at the Day, which from Luke 17. 22. I see cause to call, *Th. First of the Dyses of the Sun of man.* This Iron Age will then be over; and such Day Things as our Swords and Spears, will not survive it.

11. But then let us in the next place Enquire, *WHEN*, will arise that State of Peace, which will thus take away all Occasion to Ende war any more?

Tis possible that the Principall Characters, which may have a Tendency to make this Happy State so Peaceable, may be but Suspicious Characters, for the Opinions of many among the People of God. If you will believe such men as *Judas Maccus,* who flourished in the Second Century, yes, or *Irenaeus the Scholar of Polycarp,* It is very certain, That some things concerning the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus, were Embraced in the Primitive Church, by all the Orthodox, which were Received, by the Gentiles, when the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus, came into the Stage; nor will they be received, and Received, until that which is the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus, comes into the Stage.

in the Son of Righteousness will Rise unto them that fear His Name. I shall therefore forbear all things that may be doubtful to any one Discreet and Sober person among us ; unless, as we read in Math. 24. 3. *The Disciples came privately to ask about, The End of the World.* And I shall further more forswarn all Persons to beware of all such Conceptions about the Kingdom of our Lord, as may Intersere with His continual Intercession, or any of those Glorious Designs which He is Ascended into Heaven upon ; and of all such Conceptions as may carry a Sensual Aspect with them, or Provide a Christian and Mahometan paradise for the *Resurrection of the Just.* But I shall now mention only a few Unquestionable Characters of the State now hastening upon us ; all of which will contribute unto the Peace thereof.

First, The Peace of the Latter Dayes will flow from the marvellous Holiness, and Righteousness of those Dayes. The Apostle hath truly Determined it, in Jam. 4. 1. *From whence come wars and Strifes among you? Come they not hence, Even of your Lusts?* The Lusts of Covetous, Ambitious, Revengful men, are those things that now set them together by the Ears. That French Firebrand that ha's of late years kpt almost all Europe in a flame of war, had so little Modesty as to Own in One of his Declarations, *That the Glory of Empire was the Motive of his undertakings.* Truly, some such Lusts is the unhappy Original of Every War ; But in the *Last Dayes*, every such Lust, will be Restrained with more powerful Checks than these *Our Dayes* afford. We are allur'd in Zech. 14. 20.

To day's to be Look'd for.

In that Day, there shall be upon the Bridles of the Horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD. It seems that men shall then Conferrate all that they are, and all that they have, unto the Service of God; Every place will Swarze with such Hell, then, as will be always performing of Obedience unto God themselves, and Exciting all others to that Obedience. Earth's Temple will then be built among the Nations; which Temple, will be Holiness of Holinesses, that is, most Superlatively Holy. You cannot imagine that any Temple will then be Raised for the Mischief of mankind, when the very Bridles of the Horses will be mark'd with Holiness to the Lord. Holiness it self will then indeed be the Bridle of the World. When once men are Par'd, they will then be, as we learn from Jam. 3. 17. Peacable, Gentle, Easy, Nob: Extricated full of mercy and Good Fruits without wryangling and without Hypocrify. And we are also assur'd in Ithi. 60. 21. Thy People also shall be all Righteous. It seems they shall then be ready to yield one another, all that is Right; and neither in Expressions nor in Actions be prone to wrong one another. There will then be that New Earth, wherens both Eze: and Peter tell us, There shall dwell Righteousness. Wherefore, there should then be (though I know not there will be) any men of ungenerable Disposition, they will not be so many or so mighty as to break the Common Tranquillity. "No man's Sparks shall Combustible matter to farragon." We have been advised, in Ithi. 3. 17. "The work of Righteousness shall be Peace, and the fruit of Righteousness, Righteousness and Affection." In that Day, will God bless the World with

a plentiful and Gracious Effusion of His own Blest Spirit, as we have never hitherto seen any more, than some little Prelibrations of : [See Zech. 12. 8.] It is Predicted in Joel 2. 28. I will pour out my Spirit upon all Flesh in these Dayes. When this had a Partial Fulfilment upon a little Knot of men, in the Old Jerusalem above Sixteen Hundred year ago, What was the Effect of it ? We find, in Act. 2, 46 They continued Daily with One Accord in the Temple, and they did Eat their Meate with Singleness of Heart. But you are to Look for a further, a greater Fulfilment of this Word in the New Jerusalem ; even in the Dayes that are now at hand ; Blessed Spirit, That thou wouldest Read the Breazets, and come down unto us ! And when the Spirit of God ha's taken Possession of the World, you may Easily Suppose, that men will be of One Accord, and that men will have but One Heart, among them. When there shall be no Evident and Outrageous Fighting agai. st the God of Heaven in the World, He will soor then Plague us, as for That Cause He now doth, with warre among our selves. We shall see the Hundred-and-Fifth Psalm very eminently Exemplify'd, in the Government of our Blest Jesus ; and when all the wicked are Exterminat'd from the City of God, whiccan there be to discompose the Peace of that City ?

Secondly, There is like to be Peace in the last Dayes, because in those Dayes, the great Iniquities of the World, will be taken out of the way. As now, Tis the Devil that is the Mike-ant of the World ; if you would know, what is the Reason, that men can't let one another be quiet, it is in Shew, Because the Devil is in them.

The

The Devil is that monstrous *Vulcan* out of whose
Forge our *Swords* and *Spears* were at first Educed ;
though we must now have them in our hands to
try by his *Passes* at us. The same Devil that
makes *Damnacks* to rear and cut themselves, do's
also cause men to wound one another ; and the
same Devil that sometimes do's make *Storms* in
the *Air*, do's also make *wars* on the *Earth*. As
in Rev. 12. 17. We read of, *A war*, of which
the *Dragon* was the *Enkindler* ; so there is in-
deed no *war*, which the *Dragon* is not the first Au-
thor and *Baifer* of. The Devil is a most Bloody
Destroyer, and *Envies* unto us, all the *Comfort* of
our *Peace* ; hence there is rarely any *Destruction*,
which this *Angel of Death* ha's not some Con-
cernment in. There is no *war*, for the most part,
which ha's not some *Injustices* on one side giving
Rise unto it ; now it may still be said, *There*
is the Hand of Satan there ! Who was it that once
Provoked the *Numbray* of the *People*? *Satan* did
it ; and it is he that *Provokes* the *Waging* of the
People still ; it is an unutterable Satisfaction
unto *Satan* to receive some Thousands of poor
Souls falling into his greedy hands in one
Morning from one *Cruel* and *Cruifon* *Spot* of
Ground ! Such *Meals* do our *wars* often feast
the *Dragon* with. But in the *Last Days*, the *Di-*
vil shall be confin'd unto a cloise and a darker
Desseine, than that in which he ha's been hitherto
Imprisond. We find in Rev. 20. 1, 2. Our *Lord*
Iesus then *Comes down from Heaven*, having a *Great*
Christ in his hand ; and *He* *lays hold* on the *Dragon*,
that *Old Serpent*, which is the *Devil*, and *Satan*, and
binds him : So that the *Devil* shall then be kepte
under a *Shorter Chain*, and the *Roaring Lion* shall

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not them, as he doth, now, Go about stroking
what he may dream. He shall then, with his
Angels, be in those more Exquisite, Everlasting
Chairs under Darknes, for which they are now
Reserved; and it shall then be the Time of their
Tyrannies, not of their Walking, nor of their Cleaning,
nor of their Empire still. Upon Shutting up the
King of Babylon, that Incessant Embroiler of man-
kind in his Grave, it was said, The whole Earth
is now at Rest; and is Quiet, how much more
will that be said, when Satan himself is thrown
down into the Pit. When the God of Peace will
hurly tread Satan under his Feet, we cannot but
have The Peace of God.

Again, The Devil's Eldest Son, that is, The
King of Sin, is the Grand Boaster of the Uni-
verse. Is the Son of Rome that hath shed more
than a Sea of Blood, by the Wars which it hath
more than an Hundred times pulld the Nations
of the World upon. We see an horriblie Beast
poutry'd in Rev. 13:7 And (it is adled)
it was given unto him to make war with the Saints,
and to overcome them. The Blessed Waldenses of
old, made that Scripture their Support, when the
Popish, horrid, infandous Croisades were publish-
ed against them. A great part of the war in the
World, is but for the Persecution of them that own
the Truth and Wayes of the Lord Jesus Christ; now
there ha's not for more than this Thousand
yeare been many such Persecutions upon the
Followers of the Lamb, wherin some Hors, or
some Kind of that Ravenous Beast ha's not been
concerned. The most of the Swords and Spears
in the World, have been hammered out of those
Hellish-Keys, which the Pope carries in his Hands.

The

the Terror of the Popish Armageddon, or Excommunications, is that which ha's driven Millions of men to such Battles, as they have perished in. But in the *Last Dyses*, that Son of Perdition shall go into *Perdition* intended for him. It won't be long, before all the Corners of the Earth will ring with the Echo's of that thing in Rev. 18. 20. *An Angel, Crying mightily with a Strong Voice, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen.* All men will shortly Disdain and Refuse the *Cup of Iniquities*, tendered by the Church of Rome ; and be no more Intoxicated and Infatuated with her Bigotries. All the Orders of the Romish Clergy shall then be Hissed out of Humane Conversation, and particularly, the Ignatian Fiery Brood, which do's Finish and complete them all, shall then be Extinct for ever. That City which now Scatters Fire-balls about the World, shall be laid wholly Desolate, by such an Horrible Tempest, as that wherein Sodom was overwhelmed of old ; and in the *Asbes* of the Papacy will be buried most of those Brangles which now set more than all Europe in a flame. Be sure, there shall then be no Consistory of Cardinals to give Thanks, for the Massacre of Thirty Thousand Protestants in France, and for the Butchery of two Hundred Thousand in Ireland, as they did some years ago ; nor shall there be a Popish *Alvato* to brag, that in the space of one Six years he had Executed Eighteen Thousand people, by the Ordinary Minister of Justice, besides a Million other Butcheries. This that Monster of whom the Spirit Expressly Speaks [compare. 1 Tim. 4. 1. with Dan. 11. 36, 37, & 39.] under the person of Antiochus, who is now continually *Gazing forth with great Fury, to Destroy, and miser*

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in which every man will be sure to be and feel his full obligation. And if we have seen him wrongfully to sacrifice in a strong and warm character, no place (where he would more easily find them) a *Volunteer* for a Country that was so callous. A *Volunteer* *of Honour* *and* *with* *the* *States*, it will further argue his attachment coming to his Rock.

Finally, who are they that broke the Peace? They are the *French* that have the *first* *shock* of it? They are the *French* that are the *most* *powerful* *part* *of* *the* *world*, that *conquer* *the* *most* *of* *the* *subjects* *with* *such* *evil* *methods*? They are the *Vengeance* *of* *war* *upon* *the* *French* *and* *Frenchmen* *of* *length*. They are the *French* that *precipitate* *their* *military* *success* *upon* *the* *French*. But it is the *English* *that* *have* *entitled* *themselves* *to* *the* *French* *neighbourhood*. They are the *French* that *have* *done* *the* *most* *evil* *and* *unjust* *things* *upon* *the* *French*. They are the *French* that *have* *done* *the* *most* *evil* *and* *unjust* *things* *upon* *the* *French*.

Finally, who are they that *will* *do* *the* *most* *evil* *and* *unjust* *things* *upon* *the* *French*? They are the *French* that *will* *do* *the* *most* *evil* *and* *unjust* *things* *upon* *the* *French*. They are the *French* that *will* *do* *the* *most* *evil* *and* *unjust* *things* *upon* *the* *French*. They are the *French* that *will* *do* *the* *most* *evil* *and* *unjust* *things* *upon* *the* *French*. They are the *French* that *will* *do* *the* *most* *evil* *and* *unjust* *things* *upon* *the* *French*.

Adage to the English for

what it is that will then blow all our Friends, and Spotts, &c. The Lord Jesus has promised us in the Gospels, in Rev. 19. 19. They shall Roll the Nations into a Roll of Iron. Those Rods of Iron, will Nullify our Friends and Spotts for us : As you are in a Rude Thing to fit under a Good Government, but the Left Hands of David have three fingers, in a Sam. 23. 39. [but for I read them] There shall be a Ruler over us, Right and Wrong in the fear of God — though you may not see him, he will appear. Then shall he lay his hands upon us, & then that none shall be able to stir us up. Then shall he lay his hands upon us, & then that none shall be able to stir us up. Then shall he lay his hands upon us, & then that none shall be able to stir us up.

See also the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42d, 43d, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52d, 53d, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62d, 63d, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72d, 73d, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82d, 83d, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92d, 93d, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102d, 103d, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111st, 112d, 113d, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122d, 123d, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132d, 133d, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142d, 143d, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152d, 153d, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162d, 163d, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 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Indeed while the Church had yet some Ages to
be broiling in that Sea of Ice and Fire, wherein,
though they were torur'd with a Fire of Miserie,
yet cruel and heavy Flakes of Ice over their Heads
made it impossible for them, to get out of those
miseries, it was the mercy of God unto His peo-
ple, that they did not so clearly understand,
How Long : It would have broke the Hearts of
them, to have Thought, How Long, they were to
ly under their Oppression, and how many of their
Twelve-hundred and Sixty years, yet remained
for their Sufferings. But according to the Order
of the Angel in Rev. 22. 10. Seal not the sayings of
the Prophecy of this Book for the Time is at hand ; so
the nearer that the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus is
at hand, the more are seal'd, Unfolded, Explained,
will be the Sealings of the Prophecy. Those of you,
that count it your wisdom to huff and Scoff at all
endeavours to find, what Article is the Line of
Time we are upon, are very unthankful to the
Lord Jesus, for the Letter which He sent unto us
from Heaven a while ago, to advise us about the
Times and Seasons, which had hitherto born only
in the Power of the Father : And you forget that
solemn Reckon of our Saviour in them of old, in
Math. 12. 3. O ye Hypocrites, Can't ye Discern the
Signs of the Times ? The Import of the Reprob-
ation is this ; If they had not been fast sleep, their
Calculations might have taught them, That the
many works, or the Four hundred and Ninety
years, predicted by Daniel for the Appearance of
the Messiah were well nigh Expired : but it was
their Hypocrisy that made them Carelets and Lif-
ters in their Studies about the Times. Men pro-
pound, That the Knowledge of the Times is the Pro-
perty of

Things to be Look'd for.

things of God alone ; and that His Word is not plain enough to give them Assurance, and that it is not enough for one to adventure to Search after the sense of His Word in such a manner, and so they neglect all Enquiries after the sense that are yet behind, in the Glass of Theirs who something else lies at the bottom ; this is a great Hypocrisy !

Wherefore I shall do what is pleasing to the Lord Jesus Christ, if at this time I may come Suppos'd about the Advancement of the time when we shall be Leav'd ; as now I do not call them hypocrite I think I have a right to do it, and indeed, my opinion is that you are making them.

The first sermon.

A Contrary and a Terrible Answer to
Things in the World. It is an Answer to
our Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, in His Word.
Though we be adventured to search after the sense
in all kinds, and places, and times, and
and circumstances, in every manner, and in
intelligible sense, there is one Answer to
it in our Scriptures. It is for us, who are
the Disciples of Christ, who shall now / and
hereafter / be Leav'd / in the world / to
know / that / the / world / is / against / us /
Power / and / Authority / and / Right / and /
you / for / the / world / is / against / you /
and / the / God / of / the / world / is /
an / hypocrite / for / the / world / know /
not / that / which / is / right / and / is / known / to / the / Lord /

EXPECT AND HOPE; OR,

his Throat; One Minnute may set all to right again. Pray then, let it not fright you to be in such a Month! The Almighty God usually chooses to make a Dismal Tragedy, wherein all men shall be overwhelmed with Desperation and Astonishment; but all on the sudden, He descends from the Mabis of Heaven to put a New, Joyful, Pleasant Face upon it all; and as is said in Deut. 32. :6. The Lord shall Judge His people, and Repent Him, for His Servants, when He sees their strength is gone; and there is none left up, or left. The unusual Agonies of war, and horrible Tumult, now in the World, may only prove that Crisis, immediately upon which we may Enter into Rest. It is a remarkable Prediction, in Zech. 14. 6, 7. It shall come to pass, in that Day, that the Light shall not be clear nor dark; it seems we are to see a Cloudy, Gloomy, Stormy Day; but now the Evening of this day! One would look for nothing save Thick Darkness in the Evening, if the Day had been Scarce Twilight; No, but it follows, At that Evening Time it shall be Light. Well then, suppose we are now getting towards the Evening of a Woful Day; Suppose the Catholics never to Perse, and suppose the Reformed never to Feeble, all at once, in one years Time you may see a Turn, that shall make you say with Amazement of Soul, O Lord, Thou art Terrible This, which we looked not for! When a Prince not unknown unto us, had the Security to say in one of his Declarations, That there was now nothing left which could give any future Disturbance unto his Kingdom, the great God wish in a few Months, brought those Religious Hurricanes upon his Kingdoms, which the whole World is Jollily surprised at. No Englishman

Englishmen do's need me to tell him, That God can in fewer weeks undo all that men have been many years plotting, and Framing of. There is nothing, which doth so much Threaten to desir our Peace, as the want of Propagation for it, in the Hearts and Lives of men, and the Extreme Corruption of the World. But you Remember that all the Heathenism and Frowardness of Israel could not keep them in Egypt when once their four hundred and thirty years were out ; we find, The self same Day it came to pass ; and yet a few Dayes before, neither God nor man could be heard among them. When God shall give Order for introducing the Age of Peace into the World, He says, in Joel 3. 13. Put ye in the Sickle, for the Harvest is Ripe. When God sees that His Adversaries are grown Ripe in all their High-handed Abominations, and Ripe as to their being. Incorrigible and Impenitent after all the means of cure upon them ; He'll then give Peace to His unsanctified people, by the Destruction of those Adversaries, and make this Peace to be the mean of Sanctifying them. Not for your sakes, but for my Holy Name's sake, do I this, saith the Lord God ! Consider, Lisi. 66. 7, 8. and Rev. 18. 8, 10.

The second SUPPOSAL.

The Period of the Papacy seems to be in the Door ; and our Blessed State of Peace, will then be quickly Introduced. The Peaceable Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, ha's ever now and then begun a little to shew it self ; it began to Open a little in several Instances during, the Primitive Times ; especially at the abolition of Pagan-

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In the Dayes of the great Constantine : but still there was a Seal clapt upon it, because the Kingdom of Antichrist must first come in play, which is to abide, as Daniel tells us, until the Time come, that the Saints possess the Kingdom. Then Farewell Swords, Farewell Spears, Farewell all the Instruments of Death ! Wars are at an end. Well, There is ground for Hope that the Reign and Rage of Antichrist is within a very little while of that End, which we are all wishing thereunto. We do not want for Demonstration, That the *Pope of Rome* is the *Antichrist* : Indeed, the *Sword*, *Antichrist* most properly and Exactly signifieth, *The Vicar of Christ* ; If one would say in good Greek, *The Vicar of Christ*, no fitter Term could be used, than, that of *Antichrist* ; so that, *Ex 8. 10.* the Pope unawares proclaims himself to be *Antichrist*, while he calls himself, *The Vicar of Christ* [see the Form of Speaking, in the Greek Text, of *Act. 13. 7.*] Now its more than Once or Twice, declared unto us, That the Duration of the *Antichristian Empire* is to be but for *Twelve hundred and Sixty years*. If therefore we can tell when to begin those *Twelve hundred and Sixty years*, we may guess when to conclude them without any Difficulty. And now, its admirable that no man Notice ha's been taken of that perspicuous Epoch, in *Rev. 17. 12.* The *Ten Horns* which thou sawest are *Ten Kings*, which haue Received no Kingdom as yet, but Receive power as Kings one hour with the *Beast* ; the meaning of which is thus much ; when you see *Ten Sovereign Kings* appearing in the *Roman Empire*, you may take it for granted, that the *Power of Antichrist* is fully Commenc'd. Now all men know, that in

the fourth and fifth Century, the Barbarous Nation made their Violent Assaults and Inroads upon the Roman Empire, and more than Once they dreadfully Sack'd the City of Rome it self ; these Desolations of the Roman Empire Invaded and Obliged Several Kingdoms in the bowels thereof to set up for themselves ; of which by the year Four Hundred and Fifty Six at furthest, there was the Number of Ten Compleated. No less punctual and positive are the words of the Apostle Paul, in 2 Thes. 2. 7, 8. *He who soweth divers, will gather, until he be taken out of the way, and then shall that wicked one be revealed.* Commentators both Ancient and Modern generally Agree, that the Imperial and Heathenish power flourishing at Rome, was that which hindred the Revelation of Antichrist ; when therefore you see that the Roman Empire was broken to pieces, and that a Little Priest had opportunity to Establish himself with a mixt Religion among the Barbarous Nations, you may be sure The wicked One was come upon the Stage. Hence when old Jiron had the Report brought him, That Rome was taken by the Goths, he cry'd out, *He that hindred is now taken out of the way, and we consider not, that Antichrist is at hand !* If then from thence you reckon *Twelve hundred and Sixty years*, you may see cause to think, that whoever now Lives *Twenty Five years* more in the World, will see a more Terrible Mortification befalling of Antichrist, than he has ever yet met withal.

To confirm us in this account of Time, there is a most Harm'ious Concurrence of Presidents in the Reformation, an Age and half ago. You

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now that the Duration of Antichrist is adjusted by Time, Times, and half a Time ; that is, by three years and an half, which contain Twelve hundred and Sixty Days. Now the Time, and the Times of Antichrist seem to have been so run out, that he seems to enter his last Half Time at that famous Reformation ; there is a coincidence of a thousand things besides, to prove this Assertion. Well then, Date the Reformation from the year Fifteen hundred and Sixty, or ten years after, if you will ; the Half Time of Antichrist, you know must be run an Hundred and fourscore years ; and this again makes the Business to be Reasonably and reasonably Look'd for within a Score of years. And that which yet further fortifies this Conclusion is, that in Rev 14 15,38. There are two voices taken for the Abolishing of Antichrist ; there is first an Angel, and then a Priest. Our Lord and a mighty Herald of Churches, gathered out of the Papal Empire, at the Celebrated Reformation. But the Angel leaves work for the Priest, which always comes about a Scored part of the year after it. Now the Sixtith part of the twelve hundred and Sixty years, which Comprise the Grand year of Antichrist, is just an Hundred and fourscore years ; wherefore above so many years from the Reformation, that is, within a Score of years, is it possible we may see Papery cast into the great misery's of the Wrath of God. Indeed, how all things Conspire to tell us concerning the Day of the Divine Revenge upon Antichrist, as in Zeph. 1-14. The great day of God is over, it is over, and his truth Greatly is the Voice of the Day of the Lord : there shall

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the mighty man cry bitterly. I do not indeed fix the very Year of Antichrist's downfall; and you also know, That Rome was not built in a Day; but I am verily persuaded, A great part of this Assembly may live to see those Blowes given to the man of Sin, that shall be more Mortal mere Mortal Blows, than any that have yec been given him.

Tis not unlikely, that after the next fatal Blowes upon Antichrist the Perfect Peace of the Church may require some Time for the settling of it. But yet, be of Good Chear, It comes at last.

The third *SUPPOSAL.*

There seem to be some Symptoms, upon the Turkish Empire, that speak hopefully about our Blessed State of Peace, and say, It will come quickly. There are Seven most Memorable Dispensations of Judgment upon the Roman Empire, which are to make way for the Peaceable Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ; and these are Exalbined unto us, under the Notion of so many Trumpets, all sounding like the *Cornets* for Seven Dayes shone Jericho of old, until the fall of *Rome*. The Three last of these, are called, *the Trumpets*, as being more *useful* to the Roman Empire, than the rest; and upon the last of all it is proclaimed, The Kingdomes of this World, are become the Kingdomes, of our Lord, and of His Christ; Then we shall have done with our Swords, and Spikes, Wars with wars will all be gone: Well, you cannot but allow me, with all sensible honest preters, that the second *the Trumpet* is the Turkish Empire; which begins to play his Trumpet upon

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the Roman Empire in the Tenth and Eleventh Century, and at last between the years Fourteen and Fifteen hundred, Siez'd *Constantiople* it self into its hands. All those Execrable Plunderers whom we call, Conquerors, from the beginning of the World, have hardly shed such Rivers of Blood, as these woful Turks have done. But how long must this game hold? There seems to be a Term allotted for them, in Rev. 9. 14, 15. *Loose the Four Angels, which are bound in the great River Euphrates; and the four Angels were loosed, which were prepared for an Hour, and a Day, and a Month, and a Year, to slay the Third part of men.*

There were four Sultanies, or Kingdoms of Turks, hovering about the River Euphrates; until they all united in the one Ottoman-family, under which, by the Year Thirteen hundred, they were making themselves a formidable *wo* to the Roman Empire. Now cast up, an Hour, a little space for preparation; a Day, that is one year; a Month, which is Thirty years; and a Year, which comes to Three hundred and Sixty five [or perhaps, but Sixty] years; according to the Prophetical Cypher of Days for Years; and one would Suspect, that within less than Seven Years from this Time, the Turk should be under such Humiliations, as might obstruct his ever giving Europe Trouble any more. If we should shortly hear of a general Peace or Truce with him, it would add unto our Probabilities. Tis also a matter of some Reflection that the Number Four is Mystical in the Mahometan Religion, as the Number Seven was in the Jewish; almost all considerable things, have been terminated in Four among the Turks; and it is moreover frequent for

Today we're Englishmen

for Empires to finish in the same Nation that began withal. This had further blown up the hopes of some, when they lately saw me bearing the Name of Mahomet, and the Power of that Nation too, upon the Turkish Throne that the Mahometan Empire most like near its end. But let this Fancy pass only for one Little Pla in the Foundation upon which we would build our Progessions upon the Second *We passing away*; though who can tell what the late Convulsions which deposed that Grand Scepter may work now? And then what follows? Tis added, Behold the *Third we comes quickly*; Now that we will bring Peace to the People of God; this Trumpet will blow at length all Wars out of the World. It may not be unpleasant for those of you, that have Gars in your hands this Day, to Remark, what Note the Scripture here sets upon the first Use of Gars. When the Arms of the Turks are here describing, it is said, *out of their Mouths Blood and smoke and Brimstone*; it refers to Gas-powder which was invented not long before the taking of Constantinople, whereof a most Extraordinary use was made of it. But when the Turks are once marched off, we shall quickly see those things that will cause us to bear our Gars, as well as the Swords and Spears about us, into things of another Shape. It may overwhelm us with Admirations, to Look upon the Vast Subjects lately Risen among the Mahometans, who give such a Reception unto the Principal Articles of the Christian Religion, that a step or two further, would render them far better Christians, than some Nations that make a part of what we distinguish by the Name of Christendom. Tis particularly

Cone

Considerable, That multitudes of People among the Turks, are lately come to hold, That Christ is God, and the Redeemer of the World ; Yes, to hold this Doctrine with so much Resolution, as to choose Martyrdom rather than to quit it. These are called among them, The good followers of the Messiah ; and the more learned and Civil of the Turks do now so much fall in with these *Chap Messabites* (as they style 'em) that when they would commend a Person, they put that Name upon him. Behold yet another Prognostic of dying Mahometanism ! Should the Interest of Christianity prevail a little further there, who can tell what Events would come quickly thereupon !

The last SUPPOSAL.

Finally, what is there to fly for ? Have we not seen already Fulfill'd, Most, if not *all* of those things, which are to precede the Happy State of Peace, that is to come ?

In general, Tis both by Moses and by Peter, with a Sufficient plainness intimated, That the Six Dayes wherein the World was making, were a Type of the Six thousand years, after which the Church is to enjoy a Blessed Sabbath. Our Lord ha's told us, that these Dayes, or Years of Tribulation, shall be shirtead for the sake of the Elect ; and the more particular Prophecies and Oracles of the Bible, seem to have contain'd that long line of later-Sabbatical Time, some Hundreds of years. Now then, that have good cause to count our selves gotten at least *Five Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty Eight Years* forward upon

upon that Life, may surely Lift up our Heads !

But that which adds to our Satisfaction is, The Dispatch that he's been made of those things that are to make way, for the Kingdom of our Lord. We have a *Line of Time*, in the *Revelation*, drawn from the *Resurrection* of our Lord, unto that Kingdom, wherein He will give *Peace* unto us ; and a full *Commentary* upon what had been said by *Daniel* about the *Four Empires*. First, There were *Seven Seals*, or Stamps upon that Kingdom, all of which we have seen Open'd, so, that the Kingdom, would have come, if there had not then been a *Mock-Kingdom* to get the Start of it. At the opening of the *First Seal*, we have seen a *Warrior* come from the *East* ; namely, *Vespasian* [and *Titus*] who was in the *East*, when proclaimed *Emperor* ; he had but a *Bow*, and his *Horse* was *white* ; because the *War* in his Time did not so much afflict the *Empire* ; nevertheless, he conquered *Judea*, and *Christianity* was *Established* by the *Conquest*, which he made upon the *Jewish Temple* and *Worship*. At the opening of the *Second Seal*, we have seen a *Warrior*, come from the *West* ; namely, *Trajan* [and *Adrian*] a Native of *Spain*, which is in the *West* ; he had a *Red Horse*, and a *great Sword*, because of the *Cruel* and *Civil Wars* in his Time ; occasion'd especially by the general Revolt of the *Jews*, who butchered *Six hundred Thousand* persons in the first Outrage of their *Fury*, and were not Subdued without the *Slaughter* of more than *Two Millions* People. At the opening of the *Third Seal*, we have seen a *Warrior* come from the *South* ; namely, *Severus* [and *Alexander*] who was of *Armenia*.

THE EIGHTH AND LAST; OR,

a Northern Original ; he had a Black Horse, with Balances, and Orders about Care, and Oil, and a sword, a Scabbard of the Solcum Imperatorial, and a Lance which took place ; for never were such a Horse, or Private Terrors, more Exemplarily mounted, than in those Kings ; and admirable were the Signs above Care and War, and Oil, were then most liberally exhibited unto the World, at the opening of the Fourth Seal, we have seen, a Tyrant come from the North ; namely Maximus [to Antilia] who was of a Toracum, which is a Northern Original ; he had a Pale Horse, with Deadly Consequences of Sword, Hunger, Death, and wild beasts, because, this Tyrant perpetrated the most Bloody Cruelties upon all sorts of People ; he was a Devil of a man, and just after him came another Tygry, who oftentimes would Cut the Throats of three or four thousand in a Day. The Barbarians in the East also then made Hideous havocks ; there came likewise an Universal Famine ; a wasting Plague raged every where for fifteen years together ; at last, no less than Thirty Tyrants together, fell to shedding of Blood, through the Extent of the Empire. At the opening of the Fifth Seal, we have seen Souls under the Alter ; and a most horrid Persecution, managed by Dioclesius, and them that follow'd him ; a Persecution which lasted in its Heat for two years together ; a Persecution, which, for a Specimen of its Bloodiness, in one Countrey (that of Egypt) Murthered an Hundred and forty four Thousand men, a Persecution in which they prevail'd so far, that they set up their Triumphal Pillars, with a Superstitious Christian Death, upon them ; and from whence

Things to the last of the

silence came the voice of myrrh, so famous in the Church of God. As the last, we have seen the opening of the Sixth Seal, which produced the fall of Babylon. In the days of Constantine ; to the days of Charlemagne. Here was an Earth-quake that chang'd the face of all Affaires ; here the Devil, and his Religion, & his Priests, were Eclipsed, and fell to the Ground. here were the Temples and Idols of Heathenism cast out of their places ; here could one have seen the Invisible Empire of the Danes, one might have beheld all the signs of a terrible conflagration. In a word, here was a Type of what is to be in the Fall of Papry, at the coming of our Lord. In the Seventh Seal, we shewd have now seen the Peascible Kingdom of our blessed Jesus, after so many confounding Judgements, upon the Administraries of that Kingdom ; but the Servants of God in the New Jerusalem had still a Seal upon them. The Christian Emperors afforded a Diagram for the Antichrist which was now to rise and when the City of Rome had been more than Ten thousand years computing. As it is said, when the Empire breaking into Two Kingdoms, this abominable City controles another like space under another Lord. Antichrist was Crucified as early as Twenty five years after the Ascension of our Lord ; the Apostles give Notice of him in 1 Thess. 2 : and there was the Root of his Kingdom, by the way, ris till wonder, to see how that Number is evry where Sacred in the Church of Rome. Antichrist was compleated about Six hundred and Sixty years after that, when his main usurp was pressed by this wicked Antichrist, with the Raine of such judgments & persecutions as refuted it. But between this latter

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we might see Antichrist Reigning in the World—at such a Rate, as that, although it has been an evil thing for him to Date his Wrkings, Against Christ, yet our Lord Jesus Christ is kept out of his Kingdom by his Insolencies. Wherefore upon the Seventh Seal, we have Seven Trumpets, all sounding the alarms of the Divine vengeance against the world, for their continued Indisposition to the Kingdom of our Lord. The Blood of the Martyrs formerly shed, and the Antichristian Superstitions in worship, and Judgments on Conscience, already set foot among the Christians, loudly called for another vengeance. At the First of the Trumpets, there have been an Invasion of Bloody Gerks, Invading the Roman Empire, until Alaric took and burnt the City of Rome it self; they Rush'd on the Christians, where carried Blood and Fire together. These invasions fell upon the Empire, which was the Third of the Prefectures that the Empire had been divided into. And it is a remarkable thing, that the Gothic Troubles both began and ended, with a Natural Uniform, which Alaric, as we are told, was the Achievement of the world. At the Second of the Trumpets, we have seen a great foundation of the Barbarism upon the Transalpine parts of the Roman Empire, until the whole Prefecture of Gaul, another Third of the Empire, fell into the hands of the invaders. The whole Mountain cast into a Sea of Blood; the Roman Empire utterly lost its pollution and curse. At the Third of the Trumpets, we have seen the principal Upholder, and as he were, the King and Law, of the Roman Empire falling; the Barbarians, though they left off their Cruelty, yet they kept the Roman Law on, to

a most bitter Servitude ; all was worn out that they liv'd upon. The fall of the Bishop of Rome, into a Carnal and Earthly Temper, was also no less notable at this Time. *Gregory the great, particularly now writes of himself.* *Alas, I am outwardly Advanced, but inwardly Falls ; under Colour of a Bishoppick, I am sent into the world ;* At the Fourth of the Trumpets, we have seen the Sun and Moon and Stars in the Roman Empire Devoured by the Ceasing of the Imperial Government in the West. It was Extinguished in the Year 476, when *Geisericus* made himself Master of Rome, and Plundered it for Fifteen Dayes together. By this Time, *Antichrist* is got into this Throne ; from whence Three Trumpets more will stich him downe forever. The *Eastern Emperor* holding Correspondence with the Bishop of Rome, Contributed his most Affection to Aggravate the so to Antichristianity that Bishop, in hopes thereby at length to Recover his *Western Empire* ; and the Treasons now committed against the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus, made men Ripe for the last *Three Trumpets* of His Judgments and Indignation. The First of those *Three Trumpets* brought a Plague of Locusts upon the Earth ; to which Perhaps, the spirit of prophecy in *Jud.* had foretold many Ages before. From the State of Ignorance and Blasphemy now in the World, Our *Mahomet*, a Blude Actually possessed by the Devil, took Occasion with the Assistance of a Monk, to fabricate a *New Antichristianity*, in the *Eastern Empire* for the Detraction and Verstain of the Christians rising in the west. Both Jews and Christians were to undergo a mortifying Oppression under his Tyranny ; and therefore the Name of *Antichrist*.

of Abaddon and of Apoll, as were put upon him. His followers, called Saracens, were Arabians, and therefore most fitly called Locusts; insasmuch as, *Arabis* do's use no afford such insects; and the Hebrew word *Arab*, or *Arpis*, well enough points at Arabians, as well as it Signifies, *Harpies*, the Poet *Vulgis* description of which, is here after a fore Repeated, by *Joba*, in his describing of these *Arabians*. These, as they had *Crowns* on their Heads because all the Empires that had this Day taken up the *East* came from them; so they had *Stings* in their Tails, inflicting and infusing the Venome of a P. life Religion where they came; and One like *Plato* (whem the *Physicians* call'd, *Straphis*, or, *Prince of the Locusts*) was a King over them. This Eastern *Anti-Antichrist*; shortly to come owner of *New-Rome*, while *Old-Rome* remain'd in the hands of the Western; both of them aspire to the possession of *Jerusalem*, as having the promise of the Universal *Monarchy*; both of them agree to have all the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus; but the former gave all manner of Lingring Torments to the latter, for diverse times Five *Months*, which uses to be the Summer Duration of the Locust; especially, to that Third part of the Empire which was in the *Orient*, where the Adorations of *Antichristianism* were obstinately committed by the *Gratian* Provinces, which have not yet so Revolued from *Antichrist*, but that he ha's his influences on them as well as *Pretensions* to them. Well, a while after ensued, the *Second* of the *Two* *Trumpets*, which produc'd the Irruptions of the *Turks*, the Successors of the *Saracens*, upon the Empire. *Four* *Sultans*, or *Kingdoms* of them, were kill'd about *Euphrates*; but as last

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uniting under one Sovereign, they have ever since prov'd such a Plague unto the Antichristian World, as it ha's never seen before. They were Originally such as had none but Horses in their Armies; and Engines that Vomit out Sulphurean Powder, Fire and Smoke, were those by which they kill'd men, and shed more Blood than all that had been in the World before them. T'was indeed, a most Allusive thing to call them Horses; for they came out of Persia; and Persia Signifies an Horse. Thus, in the Vision of Daniel, the King of Greece is called, a Goat; because the Grecians were styled *Agades*, which ha's wild Goats in the Signification of it. Moreover, the Turks have sometimes come into the Field with two or three hundred thousand Horses. The Angel that blowes in this Trumpet trews now to he, Clavigero Ravaes; the who seems to be passing away. I confess, as these rots came upon the Cities of the Retired, Concealed, Persecuting Worshippers in the Temple of God; so the late horrible Impressions of the Third upon the Empire, must be Repaired, the Revenges of God upon the Emperour (whatever contrary Advice, his Councillor may have given him) for the Treacherous and Nefardous Persecutions of the First Hosts, that immediately Preceded them. If therefore the Emperour should now at all know those Persecutions, tis possible the Turks may yet make out of his Territories, more desolation than any in the former Gencrations. But it is to be hop'd, we have seen the last!

I do again therefore say, what is there to fly for? If our S. are of Persia must now the

quickly ; and indeed our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, is now in Hell for the Kingdom which He has been thus long waiting for. As for the Seven *Wials*, that carry on the *Last Plagues* of Antichrist, they are all Reserved for the Seventh Trumpet, they will doubtless make a quick work of it. But it is not impossible, That they may all be under the Sixth Trumpet, only that the *Last* being divided into those Two parts of the *Harvest* and the *Pruning*, the second part of it, will be contemporaneous with the Trumpet in the Dayes whereof The Majesty of God shall be Finished. In this same, is very Satisfactory to see, how the Air has been fill'd with Voices and Preachers that briefly, flew throw the Antichristian Kingdom, at the Reformation. The great City of the Latin Church, very strangely then fell into Three companies, namely, The Lutherans, the Calvinists, and that which yet remained with Antichrist. Accordinging to this Hypothesis (which is that of the excellent *Tucker's*) the First *Wial* or Hour-glass, of the Plagues upon Popery, ran out, while the *Church* of Rome fell into that Infinite Corruption of the Tenth and Eleventh Centuries, which have made it forever Obnoxious and Contemptible. The Second *Wial* ran out, while the Bloody *Crusades* in the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries, carried away thousands of Wretched Creatures, to the Tombs in the East ; where three or four thousand kilometer to less than diverse Millions of them perished. The Third *Wial* ran out, while the Fourth Crusade that followed carried smaller Millions into the West Country to the like Villainous and Barbarous Expeditions. There t'was proper for me to add to say that *King of Righteousness* of

David, for they have shed the Blood of *Saints* ; Insomuch, as in the midst of their *Cri'sades*, the Ancient *Wallaces* and *Albigenses* had the most horrid Barbarities perpetrated on them. The Fourth Vial ran out, while the Papal Power grew to such a Height, especially towards the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries, as to *Search over like Fire*, until the Intolerable Usurpations of it, laid the Foundation of its Confusion. The Fifth Vial ran out, while the City of *Rome*, at the Year 1303, lost the Pope, which was the *Sun* of it ; by the Pope Removing to *Avgignon*. This now caused the Schism of Two Popes together, like the sun and Moon in an Eclipce ; hence follow'd cruel Blood-shed's and *Reproach* ; and the City of *Rome* sat in *Darknes* for above Seventy years together. The Sixth Vial ran out, while the *Turks* got over, the *Bosphorus* which was the Second *Euphrates*, that had been a *Bar* unto them ; and pou'd on their Victories, till *Charles* the Fifth made them *Subject* to the Siege which they had invested *Venice* with. It was in this period, that the *Canon Law*, which do's consist of *Three parts*, was Compiled. *With* the *unclean Spirits*, Compiled the *Laws*, *Orders*, *Oracles* of the *Popedum*, and *every Canon* end'd with an *Armageddon*, or an *Anathema* and *Excommunication*, (for that is the English of it) by the *Fright* whereof, the Subjects of the *Popedum* have been kept in the greatest Awe imaginable : twas the *Fright* of those Brute *Tander-bats*, which gathered the Papish *Princes* to the Barrels of *Amara* in that Age ; and what further Battels it may drive them unto, is yet with *God* ! If these Illustrations upon the *Vials* will hold, we have more Evidence yet for our Great Assertion ; Then

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the Day of Peace, will come quickly.

Thus have I laid before you, a short Scheme of the Apocalypse. For the view, that Jobe had of these Things, you must suppose a Book of Leaves written both on the Inside, and on the Backside. This Book Rolled up in a Cylindrical Form, under Seven Labels, fastned with Seven Seals. Then suppose the First Seal opened, and the First Label removed; under the First Label had Jobe the Vision of the First Rider, and so on, till the Seventh Seal was opened; each of the Sculptures being Enlarged with Visions and Voices to illustrate it. All these being thus opened and Removed, the Book might be Unrolled; then the First Six Trumpets, with their Circumstances, appeared on the Backside of the Book; the Book was then cast up, & the Beasts Kingdom not Visionally exposed in it, until afterwards the Inside of the Book it self comes to be unfolded. Behold, how these Wonderful Sights have now also been Exhibited unto our selves; the best Expositor, (namely Eu. st) has gloriously Interpreted them.

Applications.

But since these things are so, what shall we do? I have been making some Essayes upon The Time of the Day; a few more upon The Work of the Day, may well accompany them. It will be well, if we may so have understanding in the Times, as to know what we ought to do, with reference to the future Kingdom of our David. Accept, I pray, of this Counsel then, as coming from the God of Heaven to us; Labour to be found in

such Frames, and such Wayes, as the State of
P E A C E now advancing upon the World, would
oblige us unto.

Particularly,

1. Why do *Godly* and *Able* men give themselves, no more to the Study of those Truths which concern the *Peaceable Kingdom* of our Lord Jesus Christ ? Since the Accounts that we have about, The State of Peace to come, are things whereof our Lord hath said, in Rev. 22. 6. These sayings are faithful and True ; they must needs be worthy our Study, as being some of the Rays darted from Him, who is, The God of Truth. And since these are the matters, whereof the Apostle Peter tells us, in 2 Pet. 3. 16. There are in them, some things Hard to be understood ; the more of Mystery there is in any such Truths of God, the more Expulsive and Accurate should be our Study thereupon. The Truths which concern the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, are not so intelligible, as that we must throw them aside, as he of old the Obscure and Crabbed Lines of the Poet *Pieriss*, or cry out with Despair, I cannot Read, for the Book is Sealed ! No, the Representation which our Lord hath given us of those Truths, is called a *Revelation* of them ; and the Students thereof have therefore a Blessing pronounced upon them. David once ador'd the Grace of God unto him, which gave him cause for that Exclamation, Lord, That thou shouldest speak to us, of things to come ! For us then to slight the Advice that we have had from Heaven about the Things to come ; for us to think that, Some Scripture is not profitable ; for

us to Take so head unto the *sure word of Prophecy* ;
My Brethren, 'tis a Distemper which we cannot
be Excused in. I confess, *Apocalyptic Studies*,
are fittest for those Raised Souls, whose Heart-
strings are made of a Little Fier (*lay*, than o-
ther mens ; and it is to Them especially, that I
take leave to say, There is a World of *Sweetnes*'
in Diligent and Regular Studies upon the King-
dom of our Lord Jesus. When *Jeremiah* had
been deeply engag'd therein, he adds, *My spirit*
was sweet unto me ! And *Job* found the Book
which had these things in it, *Rev. 10. 10. Sweet*,
as Honey. I may tell you, That the very *Angels of*
Heaven themselves, afford unto Holy men that
(like Them) are bent upon such Studies, a Com-
munion that is hardly to be uttered : *Angelical*
Visits, *Angelical Comforts*, *Angelical Motions*,
are in a peculiar, though in an *Invisible* man-
ner Vouchsafed unto such men of God. And
I shall tell you, that the *Food* of such Studies is
marvellously Scattered all the Bible over ; So
that you may almost every where, after some
Digging, throw up some unsuspected Intimations
of this kind, whereto you will find impossible to
forbear crying out, with some Transport of Soul,
I have found ! I have found ! There is likewise a world of *Safety*, in *Critical Studies* upon
our *Dishonesty* from that Kingdom. There are in-
deed very *unsafe* Computations, to which, and by
which, many have Expos'd themselves. It ha's
been Ridiculous to see, by what *Chronology*, by
what *Cabala*, and with what *Thierry*, some have
Steered, in Fixing, *The end of the world* ; and
there are many Temptations, into which men fall,
when they find they have been too Bold in their
Sup.

Impputations. But yet Modest Examination of the Time we are in, might prevent many a wrong step, that otherwise may be taken by us. The Jews are so maliciously Apprehensive of this, That they, Curse him who Computes the Times ; and when S. Samuel considered how long Time the Jewes had now been in their Captivity, he cryes out, Lord, I am afraid, that the Jesus whom the Christians worship, is indeed the Jeſuſe ? Pray, let them think on. But if the Ephraimites in Egypt, had ſufficiently weigh'd, That the Four Hundred and Thirty years of their continuing as they were, wanted much of being out ; I ſuppoſe they would not have made ſuch a Diftrouſt Expedition againſt the Canaïites, as that which in Pſal. 78. 5. is, uttered among, The Dark ſayings of old. On the other ſide, if Luther had been Apprehensive, that the Time appreſent for making better and better Batteries than thoſe which Hus and others had made an hundred years before, upon the Romiſh Babylonia was come on, what Security, with his Magnanimity, muſt it have induc'd into him ?

In a Word, An Acquaintance with Prophecy's may have more than a little Influence upon the Accomplishments of thoſe Prophecy's. It was foretold perhaps, two hundred years before hand, in Hoi. 46. 11. Cyrus ſhall ſay to Jeruſalem, That ſhall be built. This now reported, after the fulfilling of that promise unto Cyrus, was the thing that afterwards Encourag'd him to Do what He did. Thus, if in this Day, any Roman Prince, should ſuffer him to be Convinced, that this were the Time for the War to be brought upon the Romiſh Empire, he would, how much Vigor and

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and Conduct might the Affayrs of such a Prince be thence inspired with? Doubtless, their present MAJESTIES of Great BRITAIN, have been cause to Consider on the Prediction of the Incomparable JUBIEU, in the Dedication of his Excellent little Book entituled, The Ballance of the Sanctuary, and Published several years before the Late Revolutions in England, which have so Eminentely made good that Prediction; God has placed you (says he, speaking of the then Prince and Princeps of Orange) for Miracles in Israel, and for Signs, that he has intended your Highneses to be the Principal Instruments of that Grand Deliverance, which He hath prepared for His Church, when the storm shall be over.

Well then, Let good Researches into Sacred Prophecy, meet with no more ill Reportments among the people of God. As for Profane persons, 'tis no wonder if they care for none of these Things. It is what Prophecy it self has offered us, in v. Pet. 3. 1. 4. There shall in the Last Days come Snaffers, that shall say, where is the promise of His coming? And it is well noted by our most Learned Ltr. Our Lord taught it a piece of Late, unto His Church, to Rejoyce His coming so long before, and Proclaim their high wits and blessed, that Study them; then by the teaching of the Divine Word, they might be ready and prepared, when He should these Sacred Prophecies. And for any Profane persons to give them any such Reportments, is an Evil that Satan can hardly equal. And yet as the Disciples have been ready for our Lords Return, and have been so for these Prophecies; and them, to take notice of the same, and to be

so, there are still among the Disciples, those that Explode the Things which they ought rather to Embrace, with many Extravagies of Soul. Yea, such is their non-Rab, but Strong prejudice against these things, that if they do not like the first opposers of the Chiliasm, daily deny any Divine Authority to the Revolution of Job, and the Second Epistle of Peter, yet they cannot patiently bear to hear the Result of the most Elaborate Meditations upon those Prophecies. What is this, but a part of the Sleep, which the Virgins in these dayes are to be overtaken with?

But Awake, I beseech you, Awake, out of this unbecoming Sleep; and Read, and Think, and Pray, until the Father of Lights have given you some Light in those Prophecies, which you should Cover the Understanding of. Indeed the First step we are to take in our Studies, is, To get a large measure of Grace into our Souls. It is said in Dan. 12:10. None of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand. Men that are without the Fear of God, will go little better to Work than an Irish Bishop upon the Prophecies of our Lord; nor is it likely that those who Drink any of the Rorish Poison, should have a Sight sharp enough to Peirce into those Prophecies, much further than Campasilli, who has written a Book to prove, that the present Reign of the Pope, is the promised Reign of our Lord. But let us be like Abraham, for our Friend-ship with the God of Heaven, and we may make more hopeful Attempts in our holy Studies. What says the Psalmist, in Psal. 31:14. The Secret of the Lord, is with them that fear him and it is His Covenant to make them to know it.

II. But unto our Studies on the Peaceable Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, we should add our Prayers for it. Let us Long for, the State of Peace to come ; and joyn our Cryes, in the Cryes of the Martyrs, whom the Ten Primitive Persecutions had Slaughtered. How long, O Lord, Holy and True ! Tis a Particular in the Directory which our Lord hath given us for our Prayers. Let thy Kingdom come ; now there will be all Peace in that Kingdom ; and it is the Charge which He hath laid upon us. Keep not Silence, till the Lord be Risen, until He make Jerusalem a Praise in the Earth ; now you will have a Vision of Peace in that Jerusalem. It is required of us, in Psal. 127. 6. Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem ; for That should we Pray, and for the continuall of that Peace, that shall be in and from the New Jerusalem. Where God hath given a Promise, methinks, we should not think much of a Prayer ; since our God hath told us of the Peace in the latter Dayes, it becomes us to say. For this cause thy servant, has found in his heart, to make his Prayer unto thee. And, who knoweth when powerful and Excellent Jogs, our Prayers may give unto the wheels that may bring on the most Comfortable Revolutions ? You find in Rev. 8. 4. 5. The Prayers of the Saints quickly bring Thunderings, Voices, Lightnings, and Earthquakes with them : and thus, the great Martin Luther, hop'd, That God would (and He Did) carry on the Reformation in Germany, because many poor little Gracious Women, did use to meet and Pray for that Blessing. Be hinc, The Nowest we are to, The Peace of the great Un-

Prayer to be said at M.

the more Prayerful shall we be for the Event of that Day. Which Daniel understood by Daniel that the Deliverance of the Lord's People just at the Door, he sets himself to Pray with Fasting before God ; and imploring, in Dan. 9. O Lord, hear ; O Lord, forgive ; O Lord, hearken and do ; defer not, for thy Name sake, O my God ; it seems, he was afraid (and we may more truly say at this day be so) lest the Salvations of the Church, might be delayed beyond the Time Expected, because of men's ungodly Behaviours under the Divine Dispensation. I then, Pray hard ; and if our Prayers have their Stroaks in Procuring the Peace of the World, we need no more doubt than Daniel did, of the LOT in this Peace.

But we have both in power of Intercessory and Interrogative of Gratitute, a further Obligation to such Prayers as these. For, one main Thing, in this State of Peace which we pray for, is, The Gathering of so many Distinguish'd Israelites as may make a mighty Nation, into the Sheep fold of the Lord Jesus Christ. When the Israelites are brought back to Repentance and Conversion, Then is, that, The Times of Refreshing do come from the presence of the Lord. Now, the Restoration of Israel will be ours to us Gentiles, an Advantage unspeakable and full of Glory. This is largely discus'd by the Apostle Paul, in his Chapter upon it ; where among other great Things, he says, in Rom. 11. 14. Their Casting away, were the Reconciling of the world ; what shall the Receiving of them be, but Life from the Dead ! It seems, nothing less than, A Restoration from the Dead, shall then bless the World. Moreover, Israel did once import

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 of God, that we Gentiles might have the Benefits
 of His Institutions among us, for the nourish-
 ment of our Souls. Notwithstanding the Envy
 of the carnal among them, they that had in
 them the Spirit of God, would say, as in Pial.
 67 2, 3. Let thy Way be known upon Earth, and thy
 Saving Health among all Nations; Let the People
 Praise thee O God, Let all the People Praise thee; but
 the case is now so altered, that if we have
 any Ingenuity in us, we shall do as much for
 them! Thus, even by our Prayers for it, we
 are to, hasten the Day of God I know not, That
 the Day of Israels Reduction has any Symptom
 of nearness, in the late Exiccation of the Dead
 Sea; so far that the Ruines of the old Cityes
 in it, of late years begin to appear [though
 I have Considered Ezek. 16. 53, 55.] But I
 know that a Spirit of Prayer for it, every where
 would be a Blessed Symptom of it. It is that
 of which I may say, The whole Creation groaneth
 for it; Surely then, Ourselves which have the
 first fruits of the Spirit, cannot be without our
 Groans for the Acceleration of it. Our own
 Peace is thus Enwrapped in our Prayers. Besure,
 now Antichrist is come, we need not be afraid
 of spraying, Pro morta Fidis, has Tertullian tells us,
 the Christians of the First Ages were!

III. And until the Peaceable Kingdom of
 our Lord Jesus Christ arrive, let the Prospect
 of it, comfort us, under all, The Sufferings of this
 present Time.

We find those two things conjoyned, in Rev.
 2. 9. The Kingdom and Patience of Jesus Christ.
 We must have Patience though, that Kingdom should

should be longer coming than we think for, we should have yet the more *Patience*: and that Kingdom will make amends for all the difficulties that have preceded it; and the Kingdom give *Comfort* unto us, as well as *Strength*. We are now Surrounded and harassed with innumerable *Mischiefs*; especially with *War*, that have all sorts of *Mischiefs* Complicated in them. We are fill'd with *Pestilence*, when we see the *Wrath* that Embroils Humank Affection, and *Brumes* people to Plunder, Slaughter, and Captivate One another. But, *Nec si male natus et alii Sic Erit*; Let it comfort us so thinking. There will be no such horrible *Disirs*, in these Times, that we are now under unto /

Tis possible indeed that you and I, may *Dy* in the *Storm*; and yet a person of Note, in the Close of a Worthy Book, Dedicated unto the present King of Great Britain, cheerfully says, *I can send you the News of a Constant Increase of the Flourishing State of the Land, every Month, & Year, and to continue to the End of the World*; and therefore I desire all Good People to take special care of their *Health*, that they may be Happy, as to *Live* to get a full confirmation of his Prediction.

However, you know t'was Engag'd a poor Prince that lost his Life in a Battle, & *Chastisement* 28. That shall be gather'd unto thy *Great* *Peace*. When you *Dy*, you shall go from *war* to *Peace*; as it's said of the Righteous. He shall enter into *Peace*; and when the New *Jerusalem* withall the *Peace* of it, shall come down from *God*; out of *Heaven*; make no doubt of your being acquainted with it.

EXPECT AND ; Or,

But it is possible that many of Us, may Live to see the Peace of the latter Days, getting further on upon us, than we are well aware. How so difficult in giving my Hopes leave

To, The Time to favour, the set Time is at ! as to feel no Encouragement for the Prophecy which the Prophet made upon such Hopes of old, in Psal. 102. 24. O my God, Take me not away in the midst of my Days. The Scripture seems to intimate, that just before the Peaceable Time, when it shall be proclaimed, The Kingdome of this world are become the Kingdome of our Lord, and of His Christ ! there shall be a little Prestage of it, in one of the Ten Kingdomes, which once made the Ten Horns of Antichrist, by a wonderful Arising and Ascending of our Lords witnesses in that Kingdome. If then in some very Christlike Kingdom of Engt, where the witnesses of our Lord Jesus have most flourished, or Preected and Compleated, their Testimony for Him, you should see a large Number of just People, Witnessing to the King, Office of Christ in His Church, and Enduring of Trials like to those which our Lord Himself underwent, for ~~Witnessing~~ THAT Good Confession ; If you should see that, as it was in our Saviours case, a company of men like the Pharisees among the Jews, (possibly men of the same True Religion) but under the Influence of a Romanist, should at last prevail so far as to scatter, break up, and Cut off, all the Congregations of these witnesses, and therupon, find Gifts due to them, or keep a Day of Thanksgiving, as if delivered from some Dangerous Plot, If you should see, just Three years or as well, after this, a Royal Grant of Liberty for these witnesses

Witneses to Revive their Publick worship, like that the Jewes had of old, by an Heathen Prince allowing them to Rebuild the Temple of God, on which the Prophet says, *They were brought of their Graves*: Lastly, If then you see the Eruptions of a mighty Earth-quake presently come upon the Nation, that shall Irresistibly carry on all the Interests of the Reformation there, I say, if you should ever see such a Thing as this come to pass, near the close of Our Two-hundred and Sixty Days, behold, an *Ones* of Great things immediately to follow therepon, I'wil argue, That the *last Slaughter* of the *Witnesses* is over, in that Kingdom, and that the Kingdom shall shortly after become Eminent for all sorts of Encouragements given to Religion there, in the Sight and Spite of all its Adversaries; I'wil argue, that the like work shall quickly be carried on through the other parts of Europe, and that the *witnesses*, like *Elijah*, dropping off the Mistle of their Sackloth, shall every where pass into a State of prosperous Holiness, beyond any that has been in the former Ages. The Faithful Ministers of our Lord Jesus Christ among us, that yet Preach and're the *Croft*, and Conflict with the Straits - and wan's of a Sackloth Condition, have a particular Comfort thus prov'ded for them, in the *Ones* of our Days; Know it, ye *witnesses* of our Lord, the *Old Clothes* of the wilderness, may be taken from you, sooner than many of you imagine, and you may shortly Enter into that Rest, where, you shall have, *The Garment of Praise, for the Spirit of Holiness*!

Finally, Let us all Solace our selves in the Fore-

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Fore-thoughts of that Kingdom, wherein all Power will swallow up the Death which do's afflict us every Day. When the Primitive Christians were under their manifold Oppressions, they Thought, they Talk'd, they Wrote so much on, The Kingdom ! The Kingdom ! that the Silly Pagans Charg'd them with a Plot against the Roman Empire for it. But, we may take the Comfort of, The Kingdom, which is to bring Peace unto us with it, and yet be well able to, Silence the Ignorance of Foolish men.

IV. In the mean Time, let us Attredite the Peaceable Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, by obtaining and maintaining as much of it Now among our selves, as may be Consistent with our present Circumstances. Or, as the Apostle has it, in 2. Pet. 3. 14. Seeing ye Look for such Things, be Diligent that ye may be found of him in Peace ; if our Lord should now presently come to settle the Peace of His Kingdom in the World. Indeed we cannot cause the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus to come, one Hour before, The Day which God ha's Appointed for the Judging of the World, by that man, whom He hath Ordained. Nevertheless, to be making some faint Initiations of it, would be no less an Advantage to us, than tis Incumbent on us. If we would have the Privileges of that Kingdom, we should be found in such Dispositions and Behaviours, as that Kingdom will one Day bring into the World ; Yea, Let us, Press on, if by any means, we might attain to the Resurrection of the Dead. We are told, in Math. 24. 46. Blessed is that Servant, whom His Lord when He cometh,

shall find SO doing : And our SO Doing, that if the Kingdom of our Lord should now immediately break in upon us, we should be found already Initiating our selves at the Works that Kingdom. THIS is no small part of the WATCHFULNESS, which especially in these Latter Days, we are call'd unto.

And indeed, a proper PEACE, is the first thing, that I would hence take Occasion to recommend unto my Neighbours ; by which PEACE, I mean, a Dismission given to all Quarrels, Contentions, Animosities. If our Lord Jesus were now, To be Revealed from Heaven, in Flaming Fire, let Him not find us broiling in the Fire of wrath and strife, one against another ; This Fire would but make us a more Combustible Fuel unto That.

I do not lay any stress upon a Pretended Prophecy, lately found (they say) among some old Manuscripts of Venerable Bds, at Rose, which speaking of great Revolutions to be in the Year 1688. adds,

*Cuncta tamen mundi Sursum ibunt, atque
Deserunt
Imperia, et Fluctus audique grandis erit.*

But certainly, there is a Terrible Flood Of Detestations, now Rolling over the World ; and in such a Flood it becomes all the Creatures in the Ark or Church of God, that have any Antipathies unto one another, to lay them all aside. Methinks, it becomes all Protestants to unite at this Day, and instead of Sniping their Friends Servants

Sermons for their Variance, many of which have been in things that the Imposers have Consc'd. *Whether, consider, whether the Lord will avert His curse: Aristedes and Themistocles, the Heads of two Great Factions in Athens, when they saw the Persians take advantage of their Divisions, presently struck hands, and said, Here we lay down all our Differences, until we have put an End unto the Persian War: So, Alcibiades and Nicias, two great men of Athens, being at Variance, when they saw the Wickedness of one Hyperbolus, who sought the Banishment of one of them, in order to the Destruction of the other, they secretly met, and made a Recconciliation, and procur'd the Exile and Ruine of their Enemy. Cannot all Protestants now at last see those Intrigues of our Popish Adversaries, which are forcible Arguments for the like prudent, and speedy Accommodations? May our God now Raise up many a Dary, to Negotiate a Pacification among the Reformed and Reformatting Churches; and many a Burroughs to spread Uniting Ireniees among the people of God? Singular crowns will our Lord Jesus in His Kingdom have to bestow upon these Blessed Sons of Peace.*

But let me, Secondly, bespeak a Sacred REST, as well as a settled Peace, in the Churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. His Kingdom will be the Sabbath of the Creation; and so much of the Sabbath as we have, so much of that Kingdom we do as it were Take by Force a-fre-hand, while the Substance of it is dereliqued from us. Tis no wrong to the History of the Creation,

Things in the Earth, &c.

Creation, if we discern this Mystery of the Earth presenged in it ; Profound Writers have gone the way. The fairorn Math of mankind horribly defaced and Confounded by Sin, who of as God will not own Himselfe the Author, & He will not say, It is Good ; had yet the Spirit of God presiding over the Waters of the People, and still preserving somewhat of His Honour in them. This World of mankind, had One day, from Adam to Abraham ; in which men had first an Evening, or Dimmer, and then a Morning, or Brighter Notice of the Messiah, who is, The Light of the world. The Church it self, was this while an unform'd, and unshap'd thing in dispersed Families ; but they had some Light of the Messiah, though He were not to come untill some Dayes or Ages after ; yet was the Light of the Church distinguished by God from the Dark of the world, however He Blesses not the world in their Separation from the Church. The World had a Second Day, from Abraham to Moses. God now began to set apart His own People, from the Rest of the Waters ; but the Separation was hitherto Imperfect, there were other Godly persons yet left in many other places. He call'd a people up, unto an Heavens Church State ; but so small was the Number the people thus advanced in the Houses of a few Patriarchs, that they were no more in Comparison with the rest, than the Clouds are to the Stars ; however, twas fit they should make some Figure in the Book of God ; for from them have come down the Raines of the Blessings on us all. The World had a Third Day from Moses to Jesus. The Separation of Gods People from the Waters

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was now Compleated, in the National Church of Israel ; 'twas ripe for a Blessing, yes, for a Red-
ed one. The People of the most High, now
are, as a Dry Land ; the Church is not like the
Sea (as the World is) barren, rugged, full of
Monsters ; and though the Sea be alwayes beat-
ing upon it, yet it keeps her Ground. Yea, the
Praies of all Graces, Virtues, and good Works, in
an agreeable Diversity, are Conspicuous on it ;
if Weeds appear, they are to be plucked up.
The World had a Fourth Day, from Jesus to Anti-
christ. Now do's our Lord Christ, The Sea of
Righteousness, Exhibit Himself ; and the Church
becomes as a Moon, with her Borrow'd Various
Changeable Illuminations though not without her
Spots, depending on Him ; and Stars, or Ministers,
of several Magnitudes, among which, the Apostles
were of the First, are now Shining in the Orbs of
Heaven. The World had a Fifth Day, from the
Rise to the Height of Antichrist ; or, from the
Fifth Century to the Eleventh. Birds and Fishes
are the Emblems of the men, that make thesturrs
in these Ages. First, there were men of Bold,
Soaring, Daring Spirits, that would needs fly so
high, as to Raise Disputations upon the Trinity, the
Generation of the Son, the Protection of the Holy
Ghost. In those Times, tis known how all mat-
ters ran upon the Flights of the Arian, Macedonian,
Gnostic, and such other Heresies ; the Flights
were sometimes Happy, and often Too far. Af-
terwards, there are Spawn'd Vast Shoals of other
Creatures, that Live upon Filth and Mud, and
upon Devouring one another ; they had the
Multitude on their side, and they dwelt in the
Abysse of Ignorance ; and those Great gheats,

Things to be Look'd for.

the Popes of Rome have had a particular Consideration among them. The World ha's a Sigh-time from the Height to the Fall of Antichrist, which is between Seven and Eighte hundred years. Sorts of Beasts, and Devils and Serpents, have in these Ages been met withall. But in the Close, our Lord Jesus Christ, our Second Adam, will Himself espouse His Church, now under the Nodion of a Woman, unto Himself. And what is now to follow, but a Sabbath, wherein our Lord Jesus will give His Church to see that R:β, which He miss for the People of God. It is possible, that the Nation, which ha's discovered a peculiar Zeal for the Weekly Sabbath, may enter sooner than other Nations, into the Twilight of that R:β. But, before, God will wonderfully Break the Peace of those, who do not carefully Celebrate the Sabbaths which are the Figures of the Kingdom wherein we shall have Peace. England saw this, in the Wars that quickly ensu'd upon the Sports, which the people were once invited unto the Profanation of the Lord's Day withall. Twas the Expression of a Worthy Person, when they then heard the Drums beating for Dances and Frolicks on the Sabbath Day, I fear left the Holy God punish this Insanity with beating up Dennis for a March on this very Day! and you know how that Fear was quickly brought upon the Nation. Thus, a person of Quality reflecting upon the Tears of Germany, Printed fifty years ago, for cause to say, he believ'd the Wars of Germany, would not be over yet, Because in a Catalogue of their provoking Evils, there was no Confession made of Sabbath-breaking too common among them; and you again know what a Stage of Blood and

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For the Empire is, to this very Day.

There is one thing more that I would beseech to accompany the Peace and Rest of our Country; and that is, a Gospel CHURCH, to purify every where with, A Zeal that shall beat as my. We are now in those Earth quakes, that will certainly shake down all the Houses that are not of a Divine Institution and Constitution in the World; the Ordinances of an Evangelical church order, are those things that cannot be shaken; and the way to be safe at such a shaking Time as is now before us, is to get as many of those Unshaken Things, among us as we can. The Planting of Churches is one of those Good Things that are now Required of us. The Vast Improvement of Navigation since the late Invention of the Lead slate and the compass, has, like the other Changes of the World, the Concerns of the Church in the Bottom of it; it makes us able to carry the Gospel unto such Corners of the Earth, as have hitherto sat in, The Regions of the Shadow of Death. Now, 'Tis a great scandal, that we should permit the Roman Catholicks, to Encroach us, in Diffusive and Expensive Missions, for the Propagation of the Faith; and that so few of our Companions and Fellow-servants count themselves Congregated for the Conveying of Spiritual Things to the Heathen, from whom we have so many Examples: and by whom (which is ill-eads to be spoken) Two Thirds of the World, are yet unchristened this day! Were men more Vigilant to Propagate the World; or if the Spirit of our Lord JESUS CHRIST were more Universally prevailing in the Earth, and within Twenty or Thirty years, we will

Things to be Look'd for.

The more of this [they world not only Honour and Enrich themselves, but also serve The End, than they are well aware. In mean time, it belongs unto us, to see, that Ourselves do not keep at a Distance from Church-state, which our Lord Jesus Christ appointed for us. That Church State is The Kingdom of Heaven; and it fits us for a further State. Tis not good being Abroad in a Service, you forget not, who t'was that said, Our Father have I desired; That I may dwell in the House of the Lord; for as the Time of Trouble, He shall Deliver me. But the Parting of Churches is a thing, about which we are at the same Time to be Sollicitous. We find that when the Twelve hundred and Sixty D.yes of Antichrist, are out; there are Twenty Dayes, and Forty Five D.yes more, which, Bl. fssed it be that waits and comes next. It seems by This, that as Judas Maccabaeus, the profanation of the Mosaical Sanctuary, Antiochus for Twelve hundred and Sixty Number D.yes, then spent Thirty Dayes in the Purification of the Temple; and spent Forty five Dayes more, to prepare all things, for the Dedication of it; thus, after the Strokes that God is now giving to Antichrist, there may go some Years to Purge and Cleanse the Church of many Schisms, and Abuses now crept into it. Now, though I am pale of setting any Church in all things amonging. The Pattern is the M.yst, until those Dayes of Purification come; yet it is very pleasing to the Lord Jesus to see us Do what we can, for the Forwarding of that Holy Work; the very name of our Lord, is unspeakably pleased with what He sees, that it is our duty and study

have our Churches Exactly like that New-Jerusalem, whereinto enters nothing which D fies, nor what Abomination and Falsity. Indeed, as when
the Vigilantius appeared Vigorously against
the Abuses that were Crept into the Church in
the beginning of the Fifth Century, no less a man
than *Jerome* undertook the Patronage of those
Abuses, and bestowing the Name of *Dormitatius*,
with other bad and base Language upon the man
that had so faithfully Reproved them ; tis possible
that some Great and Good men, may now in like
manner blow upon our Endeavours to Correct
the Abuses that are got into the Church ; but
the Day is at hand, when such *Reformers* will be
acknowledged, the only *Vigilant Servants of God*.
Thus, although the World be now in a *Midaight*
of Security, yet is that *Cry Raised* among you,
Behold, the Bridegroom comes, Go ye forth to meet
Him ! We meet Him, when we Go forth to much
of that Reformation, which His Coming will more
thoroughly fill the World withall.

V. And let us Beware of being found a-
mong those that must horribly perish, in the
Confusio[n], that are to precede the *Peaceable King-
dom* of our Lord Jesus Christ. When a People
are to Enter into *Rest*, usually some *Consuming
Judgments* do first carry away an *Untowardly*,
and *Ungracious Generation*, like the *Israelites*
whom the matter of *Baal Peor*, prov'd fatal unto.
But never was there such a *Prodigious Waste* of
M., as there will be, when God is just Lead-
ing a *Chosen Generation*, into the *Rest* of His *King-
dom* in the *Latter Dayes*. Now there are especi-
ally *Two Things*, that lay men open to the most
formi-

Things to be Look'd for.

formidable Plagues of our Dayes ; which are, Papery and Persecution.

Where to find Antichrist, if not in France, can tell ? The Day Light is now a little too broad for us, to take the Sorry Puppet of the Gracious Antichrist, for, The Man of Sin. Well Enough, to note, That Antichrist must have an Empire, and yet an Empire founded in the Mistray, of a False Religion ; it must here withal be an Empire obtain'd more by Craft than Power, but an Empire, whose Chief City must be named as Seven Mountains, and the Great City which in the Dayes of the Apostle John, ridded over the Kingdoms of the Earth ; it must be a Combination of the Earthly Monarchy, and a Revival'd it, when it had Received a Deadly Wound ; but it must be only an Image of the Roman Empire, a Spiritual Sort of a Thing, which ha's no Army, but the Invention of its own Devils to maintain it. Antichrist must have a Prophet, or a man that pretends himself Infallible, to pronounce Oracles upon all Occasions ; and a Corruption of Religion, especially by a Sectarie of Demas, or Infernal Mediators : a Worship of Mahometan or Prophets, and Guardians, is the Thing that Cheifly Signallizes him ; yet this Idolatry, being styled an Adultery, must be Committed by a Church of Christians, that once was the Spouse of the Lord Jesus Christ : it must be in the Temple of God. Antichrist must have Ten Kings for the Support of his Throne ; among which there must be the old Kingdoms in his Neighbour-hood, more particularly Siez'd into his hands ; and at the same time, he must enter every Body's house, by his own power and greatness ; he must scrib-

to himself, the Powers of the Lord Jesus Christ ; and there wilhal make Bloody wars against the
 s, and overcome them ; as his Kingdom is to
 Sodome for Mischianey, it must like-wise be an
 for Cruelty , he must Interfere at all Com-
 merce with such as will not pay Homage to him.
 Antichrist must Raise Pagans out of his Grave,
 in a Dignitate ; and he must make a Noise of In-
 numerable Miracles, to demonstrate what he
 Teaches ; persons given to Lyes, 'Legends, and
 Fables, must be his Emisaries ; and yet they
 must pretend great Austerity, by Forbidding to
 Martyr, and Commanding to abstain from meats. In
 a Word, the Mystical Babilon must also drive a
 mighty Traffick, in the Sale of Spiritual Com-
 modities ; by which means, the Court of Antichrist
 must be Excessively magnificent ; and he will Ex-
 hale the Children of men to all this, by full
 Intoxicating of them. I pray, go find if you can,
 any thing but the Church of Rome that can afford
 you these Characters ! — *et Eris mihi magnus*

Apollon. No, Tis from some Extraordinary
 Blindness, if men do not now see, the Church of
 Rome to be that Babilon, whereof tis the call of
 God, in Rev. 18 4 Come out of her, my People,
 that ye be not partakers of her Sins, and
 that yee Receive not of her Plagues. Tis a thing
 whereof some Considerable persons, & many An-
 gels, have been aware. Among o.hers, a whole
 Council of Gallick Bishops, in the year, 991. Cry'd
 out upon the Pope, *He is the Antichrist who sits in*
the Temple of God. And it is impossible without
 Admiration to read the Admirable Oration made
 by the Bishop of Satisburgh, to the States of the
 Empire, in the year 1240, in which he calls,

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The Popes, The Priests of Babylon ; and Rades at Rome, the Antichrist, which had the Ten Hosts, or Kings of Europe under him. It would not be more sad than strange, if we should then be loss to find the Seat of Antichrist in our Days. Wherefore, Believe me, Tis not possible for a man to Do a more Dangerous Thing, than to Coatinne in the Romish Communion, at such a Time as this ! As for those Kingdoms, wherin Papery has been Abolished, If any man, be he High or Low, Rich or Poor, shall go to bring the people under that Grand Charr again, I will Read you the Fate of that man ; The Curse of Jesus never fell so hard upon the Rebuilder of Demolished Jericho, as the Curse of Jesus will fall upon the Authors of this Accursed Enterprize ; neither shall they prosper in it, any better than the Jews, who at the Invitation of the Apostle Jesus, going to Re-edify their Temple, God sent a terrible Earth-quake that over-threw all they had already done, and by Fire from Heaven burn'd up the Tools, and some of those that used them. But as for those Kingdoms, which yet Continue Impenitent and Incurable in their Papery, One may tremble to foresee the Vengeance im-pending over them. There is a Conflagratiō intended for our World, of which the frequent Mil-chies by Fire in our dayes may be our Monitors. This Conflagratiō [Consider Daz. 7, 11, 12. and Isa. 66. 24. and Ezek. 39. 9, 10. and Rev. 14. 10.] as it seems, will be so Latiſt and Progreſſive, as to give an Opportunity, which we do not yet Comprehend, for the Escape of such as are no people, the New world. But the first Effects be-
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be felt by Italy, whose horrendous Volcano's, together with the late Shakings and Breakings Earth in the bowels of it, would suggest suspicions of such Events; and perhaps by some other Country's involved in the like Incorrigible Popery. Tis with some surprise, that I have read, what is related by. *Dios Cassius*, 2. 66. about the Burning of the Mount *Vesuvius* in the Time of *Titus Vespasian*, wherof among other things, he Notes — — Quad Clanger TUBA RUM adiretur. But Italy may be thoughtful, whether at the sounding of the S: death Trumpet, the whole Territory thereabouts must not suddenly be turned into an Entire *Vulnus*. Could I do the part of an Angel, I would now lay my Hand upon as many as I could, that I might hasten them away from the Reach of the Horrible Tempest, which may thus come like a Stare upon them: but, in this Discourse, I know, I shall be unto them, As one that Mock-eth, or, As one who Dreams of a Dry Summer! Yet however, I will call as Moses did, when he saw the Earth going to Gape, and Fire to Rise for Sarah and his Companions, Depart, I pray you, from the Tents of these wicked men, lest ye perish in all their Sins.

But there is another thing, which even some of those that imagine themselves to have Shaken hands with Popery (whatever they may have in the Belies of them) are too prone unto; and that is, *Persecutiss*. When that Nebuchadnezzar, had seen an Image of the Four Monarchies, he made that very Image, I suppose, a Statue, which whosoever did not immediately Bow, was to be Burned for their Disobedience. This has been done

done by Antichrist, for many Ages; he ha's Erected an Image of the Preceding Monarchies, in his own Supremacy; and they that will not own him for a God, shall be Burned in his Furnace Persecution. But Wo to all Popish persecutors, in, *The Day of the Lord, that shall Burn like an Oven!* And if any have Renounced the Doctrine of Antichrist, yet for them to retain so much of the Spirit of Antichrist, as to Persecute Conscientious Brethren, is little to Condone their own Preservation, in that Fiery Day. It is broadly intimated [in Matth. 24. 48, 49.] That just before the Coming of our Lord, There shall be Church Officers, that shall molest their Fellow-Servants, who are desirous to have the Church Ordered by such Rules only as our Lord left for the Government of it when He went away; and that shall shew more favour to a Common Draxard, than to one, that shall be, *A Faithful and Wise Servant in the House of God.* It is intimated, That some sudden Providence will at last Surprise and seuecharch [or assign a Portion with unbelievers] those Evil men; and I wish, we may all so take the Intimations, as to forbear all future Persecutions. Let me plainly leave this Warning with you; That if any of you, Venture to Persecute the Conscientious People of God [Yea, though it be no Greater a Cause, than, *A Scruple to Swear upon the Gospel, that any of them do Conscientiously Expose themselves upon*] You are like to be found among, The last Persecutors; and be it known unto you, That if the the last Persecutors have the peculiar Unhappiness, to bear those Terrible Revenges, which the Blood-sheds of all the former Ages have been calling for. I say again, and, *The Lord God of the*

Holy

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holy Prophets, may make this Generation feel what I say; I say, That all the Righteous Blood upon the Earth, from the Blood of Righteous Abel unto the Blood of the Blessed Menoeret, whereto daily bathed with most Exquisite Craylers, it shall be required of this Generation. The Persecutors of this Time, do make themselves Parties to all those Witches, that have the Cry of the Blood under the Altar, going up to God against them; and let them know, That when the Day of the Vengeance of our God, is come [and it comes apace] to comfort all that mourn, They shall be decked withal, as having the Guilt of all that Blood, lying upon their miserable Souls. Now, comfort me, ye Persecutors. Let me tell you to Paices, and there be none to Deliver me.

VI. But I Consider my self as appearing this Day in my Aray among you; which Aray, you see, are a few smooth Stones in a Scrip with a setting; I mean, a few proper and useful Texts, in the Scripture, with a Sermon; and I may not lay down my Aray, until I have made some Addresses more particularly to the Gentlemen, for whom tis that I now am in this Holy Service.

God, will then give me leave to tell you, That Your Swords and Spears are as yet Reprisen'd from the Change into Plough Shafts and Prairy-hoofs, which they shall one Day be Condemned unto. Indeed, as Japhet could once make Time stand still, while the people of God were so use their Swords and Spears; if it were in our Power, we would make Time Run as so fast as presently to bring on the Golden Age, wherein Swords and Spears

Years are all to be abolished : But in the mean time, I have this Exhortation for you ; I pray you as Good use of your Swords and Spears as you can. The Prophet speaking of the Times, will immediately precede those peaceable ones, wherein they shall not have war any more, says in Joel 3. v. 10. Prepare now, beat your Ploughs into Swords, and your Pruning hooks into Spears, behold, how my Test: is to be Inverted, until the arrival of that Peaceable Day, which our Endeavours, cannot any more Anticipate, than we can make it Midsummer in the Depth of Winter ! Though this is a no less Frantic than Wicked thing, for people to Raise Wars for the Introducing of that Peaceable Kingdom, which our Lord Jesus will yet have in [the] World ; or to do like those mad Fifth Monarchs we, who have thought their Turbulent Insurrections would be Acceptable and Serviceable to the Holy Son of God, whose Kingdom is not of [this] world. It is Convenient for me to leave this Caution with you : Whatever Opinion shall have a Natural Tendency to move Seditions, Rebellions, Murders, and rob [ever] of the Rights that belong unto him, in Gods Name, Renounce it with Detestation, there is no such Opinion countenanced by the blessed Gospel of Peace. Yet our Duty to God and our King, has made it an unavoidable Account necessary for us, at this Day, to learn the Learning of War.

Is the Learning of war, to which I have given a white Name, good ? I say, it is. O world ! Wonderfully to think, you that have understood, who your Friends are, that the Speech of the Psalmist, in the 11th Chapter,

EXPECT AND A 3 Or,
the Lord my Strength which teaches my Hands to
Wor, and my Fingers to Fight. Behold, what a
rr the Souleier ha's to be Learning of ! So
tis in that Honourable and Amiable Quali-
, that our Artillery-Company do this Day appear ;
You are this Day to muster, as the Scholars of
that Glorious God, who is, The Lord of Hosts ;
even of Him, who is the King of Glory, the Lord
Mighty in Battel. If you meet with any persons
that carelessly refuse to come into your Compa-
ny, pray, ask them, why they play the Truant for ?
But, now that you may be, Apt Scholars, I am
to lay before you, a few Considerations which
may close the Exercise that we are now upon.

The First Consideration.

There is like to be much Occasion yet for
men to *Leave War* ; Our Swords and our Spears
are yet like to have a Sufficient Employment for
them. Our Lord mentions it among the Signs of
His Coming, in Math. 24. 6. *Ye shall hear of wars
and Ringers of wars.* Tis a thing that seems to
have at this Day, a Terrible and Amazing Ful-
filment in the World ; what Gaze can you read
that ha's not Armies, and Campaigns, and Sieges
filling both Pages of it ? I Remember, La-
stiss who Lived some Hundreds more than a Tho-
sand years ago, ha's a Notion, That a little be-
fore the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus come, there shall
a Great Sword fall from Heavens to Earth ; to Sig-
nify, that the Lord of the Celestial Armies is at hand.
And who do's not with Horror Behold the Ac-
complishment of that intimation ? The Almighty
God ha's hung down a Bloody Sword into the
World,

Toings to be Look'd for.

World, which the Nations every where are cruelly Butchering one another with. The world is every where making prodigious Alterations and Devastations; that Monstrous Beast is even now lying fat upon the Carcasses of our Fellow-Sinners throughout the Universe; and, O the Sword of the Lord, where will thou be quiet? Surely, there at such a Bloody Time as this, Men had need learn to Handle a Sword well; and Study the Art of War. We are fallen into that Age whereof Balaam said, who shall then Live? Now, my answser to that Question is; A man must first become a Good Christian, and then a Good Soldier, if he would now be able to Live. Never was there an Age wherein that Counsel of our Saviour was more seasonable for the World, in Luke 22. 36. He that bath no Sword, Let him sell his Garment, and buy One. Look almost where you will, and you shall see Garments Rolling in Blood; our very Garments then may justly go to buy Swords for our Defence against the Effusion of our Blood. And why should New England be Confident of Security and Immunity, while Tamulcs, Uprnars, Blood-sheds, are Tormenting the whole Sinfull World besides. The Indians among us and about us, are yet capable of giving sore Annoyances unto us. Tis true, there has been a strange Decay upon those Townies ever since we came into the Country; we see nothing short of a well-doing Miracle, when we behold how they Wither, Languish, Perish, every Day; and if some Europædes had not by Indefatigable Sollicitations procured a Peace among them, they might long ere now have Extirpated one another from the face of the Earth.

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But

EXPECT AND A ; Or,

when we see how many Hundreds of them now Surviving and how little the Interest of Gospel is either Pursued or Embraced among us, we are altogether A sleep, if we have not our benniors. Are not some of those ~~Caranality~~ Believers for Themselves on our Sides ? Or if we should not from them have much further Molestation, yet are we ignorant, That all the Princes in Europe, who own any part of America, must needs have their Eye upon these Plantations ? Except our God give (and, let Him give) Remarkable Successes to our Nation at home, we have dismal Reason to Look for that Fate. At first, the Lord more lightly Afflicted the Land, and afterwards did more grievously Afflict her, by the way of the Sea. But that which of all ha's the blackest Aspect upon us, is the Divine Commination, in Lev. 26. 25. I will bring a Sword, that shall avenge the Quarrel of my Covenant. Alas, the New-Englanders do not so Generally Own, or Prize, or Keep, the Covenant of God, as that the Sword should find no Quarrel here ? We do not yet so Generally appear before the Lord, in His House, as that no man should desire our Land.

The Second Consideration.

To Leave War, or, to use the Sword and the Spear, is not only a Lawful, but also a Needful, yes, and a very Noble Thing. There is a Sort of men at this Day in the World, who Succeed the old Marabouts, as well as other old Hereticks, in declaiming against all Military Discipline ; but this is not the only thing wherein they shew themselves no less unscriptural than Irrational. The Blessed Job, of old gave several Words of Command,

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and, into the Number of the
hoste none of them was left alive.
The greatest Souldier, and the
the Oracle of God, was then
by their Sides; and when no
man durst stand before them
than Jordan, then said the Lord
The Triuice-Holy God was then to be
A Man of War; and when an Army was
once among the People of God, we had
1. 13. The Angel of the Lord said, God is
not with them that come not thence. I pray, where
Warrane have we to Expect *Armies*? In our
daily preservation when in our Swords we
have the *Messias* by which the Church of God may
been hitherto protected? And what but *Miracles* can
preserve those that have no Swords to
keep off *Invaders* which every glace is *Expofit*
unto? Tis true, That though the Story of the
Tobias *Legion* be a Fable, yet there are Cases
wherein, *Prayers* and *Teaſt*, are up to be our only
Arms; But for all that, Men have their *Lives*,
Liberties, *Properties*, which the very Light of Na-
ture teaches them to maintain by stronger *Arms*
against all *Forreign Injuries*. Christianity never
instructed men to lay down that *Natural Principle*
of *Slef Preservation*; which Principle sometimes
calls aloud, *Where's a Sword?* The *State* will
alwayes Command the *Gold*; men can have no
Right ſecur'd unto them, if they do not make
ſure of *night*, whereby they may, *How to Repell*.
That *Ancien*, who Wrote it *Unbecoming* for a
Christian to be a *Souldier*, was driven to this fur-
ther Absurdity, that he forbud a *Christian* to be
a *Witnesſ* too, when the *Blood* of a *Maleſactor*
might be thereby *Endangered*. But What is
Known

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Know we not, that the only Church which God had in the World, was a *Camp*, when *Israel* was in the *Desert* ; and know we not, that the Title of *Israel* is more than once, with an unspeakable Satisfaction Challenged by our Lord Jesus Christ Himself ! Or, shall I tell you ? The very *Angels of Heaven* are but so many *Heavenly Armies* ; and they are described as, *All Holding Swords, being Experts in War.*

Tis therefore no Unreasonable thing, That *Gratiante in Arms*, has in all Ages been the *Original of Nobility*. The ancient Romans preserv'd those to be their *Magistrates*, who had first been their *Soldiers* ; and, I pray, what are the *Escutcheons, or Coats of Arms*, deriv'd unto us from our *Antecessors*, but marks Engraven on *Shields* to Commemorate their *Achievements in the Field* ? By *Fiefs of Arms*, 'tis no rare thing for Persons of a mean *Birth*, to arise unto such *Grandeurs* and *Honours*, as give a stop to all further Ambition. What was *David* but a *Shepherd* ? The Persian *Emperour Cambyses*, was but the *Son of a Carter* ; the Turkish *Emperour Ossman*, was but a *Camels-driver* ; and it were a peice of Baseness to envy the Advancements, in such a way attainted. In short, As the Field has first given most of those *Dignities*, which men do now Value themselves upon, so it ha's bred those *Edomites* which have made men the *Admiration* of the *World*.

The Third Consideration.

They that *Learn war*, had need Learn something else, and they that handle *Swords & Spears* ought at the same time to be furnished with

Qualifications that shall be truly Extraordinary. We assure you, such Edg'd Tools require more than a little Wisdom in those that wear them. It is a place in the Field, that gives a person claim to such a style as that of, *His Excellency*; and a Souldier truly should many wayes have something of Excellency in him. He that would be a Commander, should indeed have some Insight into all the *Liberal Arts*; especially, those of the *Mathematicks*; and he must be Master of such a Carriage herewithall, as to Carry at once the *Love and Fear* of those that shall be under him. But there are further Vertues, from which not so much as a Private *Sentinel* should conte himself Excusable.

The first thing that Recommends a Souldier, would be *Courage*; a Courage like that which inspired *Julias Caesar* to say, unto some that would have Scared him, *I le sooner Dy than be Afraid*; a Courage like that of *Sampson*, or *David*, who durst even take a *Leviathan* by the *Thro*b. Lest we should any of us, be call'd unto any *Sea Encounters*, let me touch upon this one Instance more of such a Courage, A stout Athenian, pursuing the *Perseus* to their Ships, when one of their Boats was putting off the *Shoar*, he got hold of it with his Right hand, and kepe his hold until his Hand was cut off; he then laid hold of it with his Left hand, and kept his hold until that Hand also was cut off; hereupon he clapt hold of it with his *Teeth*, until further Help came up. Such an Undaunted and Obstinate Resolution well becomes a Souldier; he should Scorn to have any *Musick* but what he may see with his *Looking-ou* *Shoulder*. Let me Repeat unto you the Words used

18. EXPECT AND A ; Or,

by the Lord-General of Israel in his Military Orga-
tion of old, Be of Good Courage, and let us play
the men !

the Lions Skin must sometimes be peiced
in another ; there is *Cunning* Requisite unto
a Soldier too ; the *Cunning* of well Employing &
well-applying the *Weapons* with which you are
Arm'd ; the *Cunning* of Inventing, and perfor-
ming a neat *Stratagem* when tis called for. How
Commonly do's Policy out do *Prudence* ? The
Policy to know and to take all *Advantages* is
that, of which the Wise man ha's told us, *Tis
better than Weapons of War* ! So *Joshua* found it
when *Abi* was to be Conquered ; and so the King
of Poland found it a few years ago when he made
an Army of an Hundred Thousand *Muscovites*, all
cast themselves at his Feet, without giving any
manner of Battel to them. But it is not for me
to Read Military Lectures before our *Hannibals*. I
shall rather press upon you, that which is, *The one
thing Needful for us all* ; *Tis Piety, Tis Holiness,*
Tis Religion that you should in the first place
Labour to be Qualify'd withall. *Soldiers* have
been hitherto Reproached for a sort of *Blades*, in
whom, there is, *Nulle Fides, Pietasque* — But O
Conjurte that *Clamour* by your Godly Conversation.
It is pity to see a fine *Soldier*, with an unhappy
BUT upon him ; as we read of one, in a King.
3. 2. *He was a mighty man in Valour, BUT he was a
Leper* ; so it may be said of some. *He is a fine
Soldier, BUT a Debauchee, BUT a Militant Enemy*
of all that is Holy and Just and Good. Such a BUT
is a *Leprosy* that spoils all the rest. It is not the
atheist, but the *B. li. ter*, that is the *Soldier* to be
best accounted of. — Indeed such Fellowes as he
Furious

Things to be Look'd for.

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Furious and Infamous Bucannans, may do (as they have done) many Things of a most Incredible Adventure; but this I am sure of; the ~~Belie~~ in the Eleventh Chapter to the Hebrews, did this of a far Greater Bravery. It is next to be supposed, That men which carry about a Dirty, and a Guilty Conscience with them, will have so much of the Divine presence to smile upon their Enterprizes, as those whom the Blood of Jesus hath Sprinkl'd from an Evil Conscience. Usually, They are not the Debauched, Swearing, Curseing, part of Mankind, that will acquit themselves with the most Vigorous and Succesful Gallantry; a Divine of some Note once Preaching before K. Charles I. delivered this passage, Sir when God Damn me, Leads the Way, and, The Devil take me, brings up the Rear, never think that your Armies will do you any Considerable Service. The English Nation had given a mere Uncontroleable Command unto all Europe at this Day; if it had never been under any such Conduct; or if more of its Leaders had been more like the Just and Good Prince now upon the Throne. A little Handfull of Chast, Sober, Devout Persons, a small Army of Saints would be able to drive the whole World before them; One world Chuse a thousand, & two ptz 100 thousand to Flight; a Praying Legion will be a Thunder Legion. In fine, a Soldier is Good for Little if in an Article of Deadly Danger, he most cry out, I cannot Dy, I dare not Dy! Let your Peace be made with the Omnipotent God, before you encounter with any other Adversary, First Lise your selves under the Banner of the Lord Jesus Christ, before you go upon any other Warfare. You all have one very Frightful, Ghastly, hideous Enemy

Enemy, to look in the face; from a War with whom, you can have no Discharge; it is said in
13. 26. *The last Enemy is Death.* Where-

As your Commanders will anon in diverse points make a Trial of your Souldiery, so I shall now try you with one material Question thereupon; 'tis this, *Can you Dy?* Give me leave to Exercise you a little before we part! Can you Cheerfully stand amidst a Shower of Bullets, and bravely say, Death, Strike, if thou dare! the worst thou art able to do me, is to send me unto Heaven before the Rest of my Neighbours! If you have, said I Bieft God, I see the Faces of some that have, thus far strained, I will call you, *Souldiers indeed;* and Salute you in the Words of the Angel, *The Lord is with thes, thou mighty men of Valour!*

The Last Consideration.

The most grateful and Cordial of our Acknowledgements are due to *Yr*, that are this Day *Learning of War.* Could I speak with a Voice, that should reach to all the *Souldiers of New England*, or to all that are studious to Countenance *Military Discipline* among us, I would presume in the Name of all the sensible persons in the Country, to Express all possible Regards unto them, I would Venture to say,

'Tis to *Mr* under God, that we owe the many Comforts of our Lives; we should soon be Rob'd of all that is dear unto us, in the World, if it were not known that there were such as *thee* to set the Price of all. Our Plough shares and Paling hooks would not be able to feed us, if your Swords and Spears,

were not a Guard unto them. Our Shops would be soon Emptied by those that would Measure our Wares by the Long Ell, that is, the Pike, if You kept them not. It is by Your means, God's Huses among us, have His Ordinances Undisturbed in them; and that our Own Huses are full of things that are as well Necessary, as Convenient for us; And of this we are the more feelingly Convinced, because we saw a Visible Antipathy to the Military Spirit of New-England, in those that lately propounded unto themselves the Nipping and Creepling of these Plantations. We do therefore Confess, that for us to Discourage You, is to bespeak Losses and Ruines for our selves; and we Confess that when you have been in any particular Services Exposed for us, it is not only an Abominable thing for us to Clear you of your Wages, but also a Dishonourable thing if we do not bestow some Signal marks of Love and Care upon your Families; We hope, we wish, that Professing New-Englanders will at last Exceed Pagan Athenians in such a Gratitude unto the Well-deserving Subjects of the Country.

But the Thanks that should be given to all that have the Spirit of Souldiery among us, are particularly belonging to that worshipful Company, which by asking a Sermon this Day, have declared the God of Heaven to be their Commander in chief. We Thank you, our most worthy Friends for this your Zeal of being made Capable to Fight, yea, and to Dif for your Distressed Neighbours. Your Voluntary Association and Combination for the Leavins of war, Obliges us to count you Extreme glory; and it becomes us thereupon to say,

My Heart is towards those that Offered them Lives
Willingly among the People ; Bl's ye the Lord.
Sobriety do's further make us to Expect
nothing from you but what is Notable, and
Excellable ; I would, Inscrutably speak it for your
Encouragement ; Here is a Large Band of Soldiers
among whom this whole Day of Division will
not afford one man Drunk, or one Oath Swear, or
one Curse Drop'd, or one Health swallow'd, or
one Observable Misbehaviour. You are in this
respect, the Glory of New England, which may
Challenge the biggest part of the World by far,
to show the Like ! But your Soldiery, is that
which adds to our Expectations from you ;
for I will say this for the men of New England,
There is not, I suppose, that People under the Sun,
which dare meet them upon Equal Terms ; but your-
selves are to be esteemed as the Flower and Choice
of our Forces : I hope, that every one of you
will have at Least a File of Ordinary Soldiers
in him.

Go on then, ye Worthy Persons ; and let
nothing Discourage you from the Prosecution of
your Generous Undertakings. You have our Un-
mixed Acclamations, Go on ! A great Warriour of
God, would be so Eager in his Battles, that the very
God would Spirit out of his Lips ; Could these
words of mine flame with as much Zealotry
and Vehemency, they should but Vigorously say,
Go on ! Go on ! But when I say, Go on, you
will also suppose it said, All Right ; other-
wise to Go on, will be to Go out of the Way,
it is probable, that one of your principal En-
emours is, To be Good Marksmen ; but I hope,
you are Singularly careful, to Aim at the Praise
of

Toings to be Look'd for.

of God, in all you do ; that you will have
Holiness to the Lord, Engrav'd upon all your
Arms ; and that you still say, Is the Name of
our God will we set up our Banners.

For that cause then, Accept the Blessing, which
we now give to dismiss you with ; tis that which
was used unto an Eminent Souldier of old ; Since
thou Fightest the Battles of the Lord, Let thy Soul
be Bound up in the Bridle of Life with the Lord
thy God. May this Artillery Company be a
little *Curse* of Renowned Souldiers : May all
of you have Opportunities with Inclinations to
Serve your Generation according to the will of God ;
May you Live to the Day, and I know not but
some of you that are now in this Assembly,
may Live to the Day, when you shall Beat your
Swords into Plough Shafts, and your Spears into
Pruning hooks ; but if you first fall Asleep, may
every one of you be *conquerors* and more than
conquerors over the Destroyers of your Souls ;
and may you be *Transplanted* from this Bridle,
into those Regions, where the Lord Jesus Christ
is a Standard beare unto many Thousands, and
where a *Crown of Righteousness* is bellow'd up
on all them that have *Loved His Appearing*.

The END.

Necesse erat tota Redempti Spectacula
mane,
Imperium, Cum patre
curius habet.

J. Stambini, Felicitas
Ultimi seculi.

Loefftii Assertion.

Veniet igitur Summi et Maximi Dei Filius—
Verum M.L.B., cum deleverit inostitiam,
polichimpo maximum fecerit, ac Iustos, qui
a principio fuerunt, ad Vitam Restauraverit,
mille Annis inter Homines versabimur, Eoque
postulatio Imperio regerit. Lib. 7. Cap. 24.

Hieronymi Concessio.
Quae licet non regimur, tamen Condemnare
non possumus, eo quod multi vivorum Ecclesi-
asticorum et Martyrum, ista dixerint.
Commiss. in J. 19.

Verba Celebris Cognosdam Scriptoris.
Neque debent a Nobis petere Adversarii, cur
sequamur Proprium sensum Verborum, Simile
nam id esset, ac si, quis peteret ab Iis, qui sunt
in Iudea, cur sequatur Viam Communem et
Tricam. Nemo fatus id querit; vel cur In-
grediamor per portam, non per Fenestram.

